

AGENDA

One Newport Public Services Board – 8th September 2020

10.00 am - Teams Meeting

(Please join the meeting by 9.55 am so that it can start promptly at 10.00 am)

Guidance for Teams Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please use the “raise your hand” facility to make the Chair aware that you wish to speak
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please mute yourself during the meeting when you are not speaking to avoid background noise
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have a poor connection during the meeting, switching off your video may help

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the meeting held 9th June 2020 (minutes attached)

Strategy and Policy

4. Regional G10 Group – Chair to update
 - a) Regional PSB
 - b) Other G10 work
5. Local Well-being Plan
 - a) Annual Report 2019-20 – Will Beer (Public Health Wales; Chair of Strategy and Performance Board) (report attached)
 - b) Strategy and Performance Board
 - i. Minutes - Will Beer (Public Health Wales) (minutes attached).
 - ii. Members to suggest any items for discussion by the S&P Board
 - c) Review of Sustainable Travel intervention - Ceri Doyle (Newport City Homes) (paper attached)

Delivery

6. Safer Newport Update – Beverly Owen (Newport City Council) (paper attached)
7. Homelessness – Beverly Owen (Newport City Council) (oral report)
8. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Strategic Allocated Funding Grant – Steve Morgan (Natural Resources Wales) (paper attached)

Information items to note

9. Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board Annual Report 2019-20 (report attached)
10. Community Wealth Building (paper attached)
11. Welsh Government Review of Strategic Partnerships (letter and report attached)
12. Regional Partnership Board minutes (minutes attached)
13. Western Gateway Partnership - Update (paper attached)
14. Forward Work Programme (attached)
15. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 8 December 2020

16. Meeting dates in 2021

Proposed dates for PSB meetings in 2021 are as follows. PSB to consider holding meetings at 4.30 pm.

Tuesday 16th March 2021

Tuesday 8th June 2021

Tuesday 14th September 2021

Tuesday 14th December 2021

Contact: Nicola Dance: 01633 656656; E-mail nicola.dance@newport.gov.uk

Date: 01 September 2020

[PSB Terms of reference](#) and [Induction Pack](#)

Twitter: @onewport #thenewportwewant

Website: onewportlsb.newport.gov.uk

Instagram: onewportpsb

Minutes Newport Public Services Board

Date: 9th June 2020

Time: 10.00 am; Online meeting via Teams

Present:

Statutory Partners:

Newport City Council: Cllr J Mudd (Chair); B Owen (Acting Chief Executive)

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB): N Prygodzicz; K Dew

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service: H Jakeway

Natural Resources Wales: C Davies

Invited Partners:

Welsh Government: A John

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner: D Garwood-Pask

Heddlu Gwent Police: CS I Roberts

Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations: S Tiley

Newport Third Sector Partnership: C Lane

RSLs: C Doyle

Newport Live: S Ward

University of South Wales: M Cadwallader

Officers:

N Dance (PSB Co-ordinator), T McKim (Newport City Council), W Tucker (Newport City Council)

Apologies:

G Lacey (Coleg Gwent), D Binding (Probation Service), Mererid Bowley (Public Health Wales), J Cuthbert (OPCC)

No	Item	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Stephen Tiley to the meeting as the new Chief Executive of GAVO.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the meeting held 10th December 2019</p>	

	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2019 were confirmed as a true record.</p> <p>Matters arising</p> <p>The Chair advised that a note had been circulated to members updating on actions from the December meeting.</p> <p>Re Minute 3 G10 Update, the Chair advised that a paper was due to be submitted to G10 on options for a regional PSB. While there were positives to a regional approach, the PSB was mindful of the differences between the city of Newport and neighbouring local authority areas.</p> <p>Re minute 4, the Chair noted that there was currently only one lead for the Newport Offer and that consideration was being given to how best to bring other PSB members on board. A second lead was also required for Right Skills to replace M Featherstone, who had represented GAVO.</p> <p>Agreed – To confirm Stephen Tiley as the second lead on Right Skills.</p>	S Tiley
3	<p>Appointment of Vice-Chair</p> <p>Ceri Davies (NRW) was appointed Vice Chair.</p>	
4	<p>Covid-19</p> <p>The Board received a letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government regarding expectations for PSBs in responding to Covid-19. The Strategic Co-ordination Group will be leading the recovery from the pandemic at a Gwent level, however the PSB will have an important role to play in considering, and co-ordinating, the longer term response to the impacts of Covid-19 on communities. The Minister’s letter noted a possible need for PSBs to reflect on whether the well-being objectives and priorities in Local Well-being Plans remain the right focus or need to be refocused.</p> <p>Members gave their views on the local response to the pandemic and noted that excellent partnership arrangements in Newport had benefitted the response.</p> <p>The Chair noted that a Community Impact Assessment was being developed and that members could contribute to this. H Jakeway advised that a paper on the Jigso project and its potential going forward would be brought to the PSB. Members commented on the value of the Newport Intelligence Hub in supporting Covid-19 response work.</p> <p>The Third Sector Partnership had met ahead of the PSB and there was some concern about the ability of some third sector organisations to re-open following the pandemic.</p> <p>The Board noted a letter from the Minister for the Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs to the Chair of NRW regarding a Covid-19 recovery action plan for nature,</p> <p>Agreed – Members to consider the letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government regarding PSB involvement in Covid-19 recovery and forward any comments to Nicola Dance</p>	ALL
5	<p>Sustainable Travel: Gwent Sustainable Travel Charter</p>	

	<p>The Board considered a draft sustainable Travel Charter for Gwent, which will support and encourage staff and visitors to organisations' sites to use healthy and sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>Members noted the relevance of this work in maintaining lower carbon emissions and improved air quality post-Covid.</p> <p>Agreed - In principle to sign up to the Gwent Travel Charter.</p>	C Doyle, E Wakeham
6	<p>Placemaking Wales Charter</p> <p>The Board considered a draft Placemaking Charter for Wales, which had been developed by the Placemaking Partnership for Wales. The Charter promoted good practice in planning policy and supported the development of high-quality places for the benefit of communities.</p> <p>It was noted that the Charter complemented the interventions in Newport's Wellbeing Plan, in particular Newport Offer and Green and Safe Spaces,</p> <p>Agreed - That the PSB signs the Placemaking Wales Charter and links are made to the appropriate interventions.</p>	B Owen. N Dance
7	<p>Local Wellbeing Plan Annual Report</p> <p>The Board considered options for completing the Well-being Plan Annual Report 2019-20 in light of the Coronavirus outbreak.</p> <p>In accordance with the timescales laid out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act, Newport's Well-being Plan Annual Report was due for publication in July 2020. However, while there had been some progress in agreeing the structure of the report, Covid-19 had slowed its development.</p> <p>Members noted that Welsh Government had stated that they cannot formally advise PSBs not to meet statutory deadlines, however they could reassure that they would not challenge a PSB for not publishing within the deadline. The Future Generations Commissioner and the Auditor General were also taking a pragmatic approach due to the pandemic.</p> <p>Members commented that releasing any report at this time was likely to have little resonance with the people of Newport when the impact of Covid-19 is their concern.</p> <p>Agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the annual report is completed by September, which would enable further work to take place and ensure that the report has purpose and can be used to highlight the work of the partnership to communities. ii. That, if necessary, this be a light touch report in view of the ongoing demands of the Coronavirus on resources. 	Intervention Leads Partnerships Team
8	<p>Review of the PSB's Terms of Reference</p> <p>The Board reviewed the terms of reference for the One Newport PSB.</p> <p>Members commented on the importance of Newport Youth Council (NYC) being an invited partner in PSB work and of effective and meaningful engagement. It was noted that the revised TOR included the nomination of a PSB member as a formal link with NYC.</p> <p>The Chair commented on NYC's excellent campaign during the pandemic.</p>	

	<p>Agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. S Tiley and C Lane consider how best to involve NYC as an invited partner on the PSB ii. Subject to the above, the revised terms of reference for the PSB be agreed. 	S Tiley, C Lane, N Dance
9	<p>Welsh Government Support for PSBs 2020-21</p> <p>The Board noted a letter from Welsh Government announcing that funding for PSBs will not now be available in 2020-21. Welsh Government intended to make funding available in 2021/22.</p>	
10	<p>Forward Work Programme</p> <p>Agreed - All members to propose agenda items.</p>	ALL
11	<p>Meeting Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 am Tuesday, 8 September 2020 • 10 am Tuesday, 8 December 2020 	ALL

Public Services Board

08 September 2020

Local Well-being Plan Annual Report 2019-20

Purpose

This report is to present the Well-being Plan Annual Report 2019-20 for approval prior to publication.

Background

To comply with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, One Newport Public Services Board must publish an annual report to review progress against our well-being plan. The [first report](#) was published on the 3rd July 2019 and, in compliance with the guidance, the second report covering work during 2019-20 was expected by 3 July 2020.

Due to PSB member organisations having to respond to Covid-19, their main focus had to change and therefore we were not in a position to publish the annual report as initially planned. The PSB at their meeting in June agreed to delay publication of the report until September to allow members to fully contribute and acknowledge the impact Covid-19 has had on the city.

The draft One Newport Well-being Plan Annual Report 2019-20 contains the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: Background
- Chapter 2: The Plan
- Chapter 3: Objective Progress
 - People feel good about living, working, visiting and investing in Newport
 - People have skills and opportunities to find suitable work and contribute to sustainable economic growth
 - People and communities are friendly, confident and empowered to improve their well-being
 - Newport has healthy, safe and resilient communities
- Chapter 4: Self Reflection
- Chapter 5: Performance, Governance and Accountability

Well-being Plan Review

The annual report comments on the intention to review the Well-being Plan to ensure that it can adapt to changing circumstances. This work was due to begin in May 2020 by the Strategy and Performance Board but was deferred in view of the need for partners to focus on their response to the pandemic.

Subsequently the Minister for Local Government and Housing has written to PSBs regarding their role in the recovery from Covid-19 and suggesting that, in the light of the impact of the pandemic, they reflect on whether the Well-being Objectives and priorities in local well-being plans are still the right focus or need to be re-focused. Intervention Leads will continue to review their interventions, and the Well-being Objectives in light of Covid-19 taking into account of the Future Generations Commissioner's Report and Journey Checkers.

Recommendations

- i. The PSB agrees the content of the annual report and/or makes additions/changes.
- ii. Note the work by intervention leads to review their interventions and the Wellbeing Objectives in light of Covid-19, taking account of the Future Generations Commissioners Report and Journey Checkers.

Timetable

Task	Deadline
Draft to Strategy & Performance Board	12 August 2020
Final draft to PSB	8 September 2020
Final report to Scrutiny	Date to be agreed
Publish Annual Report	September 2020

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Well-being Plan Annual Report has been developed using the Shared Purpose: Shared Future guidance. The report includes detail on how each intervention has considered the sustainable development principle (long term; prevention; collaboration; integration; involvement).

Communication

The One Newport website has a page for each intervention and for performance reporting and these pages are used to update the partnership of the progress made against each of the interventions throughout the year and against the objectives at end of year.

In order to improve accessibility, the report will be displayed online using Microsoft Sway to be more visual and interactive e.g. include more images and have embedded videos.

Background Papers

[Delivery & Performance Framework 2019-20](#)

[Local Well-being Plan](#)

[Well-being Plan Annual Report 2018-19](#)

Contacts

Tracy.Mckim@newport.gov.uk – (01633) 210822

Emma.Wakeham@newport.gov.uk – (01633) 210501

Wayne.Tucker@newport.gov.uk – (01633) 210502

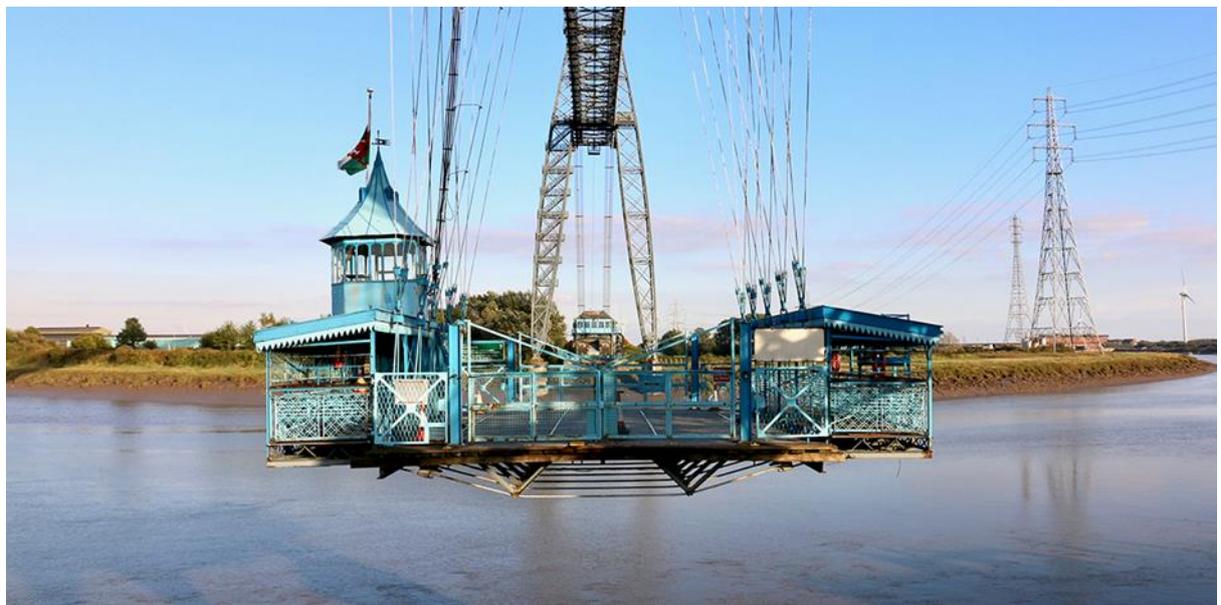


NEWPORT'S WELL-BEING PLAN 2018-23



Annual Report 2019-20





FOREWORD

Add Text

Cllr Jane Mudd

Chair, One Newport PSB & Leader of Newport City Council

Ceri Davies

Deputy Chair, One Newport & Executive Director Natural Resources Wales

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword

Chapter 1: BACKGROUND

Introduction

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

What is the One Newport Public Services Board?

What is the Local Well-being Plan?

Chapter 2: THE PLAN

One Newport PSB Well-being Plan

Our Well-being Objectives

One Newport PSB Local Well-being Plan Structure

Chapter 3: OBJECTIVE PROGRESS

People feel good about living, working, visiting and investing in Newport

People have skills and opportunities to find suitable work and contribute to sustainable economic growth

People and communities are friendly, confident and empowered to improve their well-being

Newport has healthy, safe and resilient environments

Chapter 4: SELF REFLECTION

Partnership Evaluation

Board Development Action Plan

Review of Well-being Plan

Further Self-Evaluation

Chapter 5: PERFORMANCE, GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Delivery & Performance Framework

Measuring Progress

Long Term Risk Management

Accountability

More Information

CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND

Introduction

This is the second Annual Report of [Newport's Local Well-being Plan 2018-23](#), covering the work of the partnership during the period of April 2019 to March 2020. This follows on from the [first annual report](#), which was published on 3 July 2019.

The Annual Report is produced following the Well-being Plan's first year of implementation and each subsequent year during the lifespan of the plan. This overview provides the opportunity for the Public Services Board to review progress against each of our four well-being objectives by identifying areas of good practice using the following framework:

- Description of the case study / example
- Which of the intervention(s) & well-being goals does this relate to?
- How were the 5 Ways of Working used?
- What performance measures were used to demonstrate progress?
- Plans for the future

To comply with the Well-being of Future Generations Act the report was due to be published on the 3rd July 2020. With the impact of Covid-19 and its effect on public services board members having to shift focus to responding to the pandemic, the PSB agreed to delay publication until September 2020.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

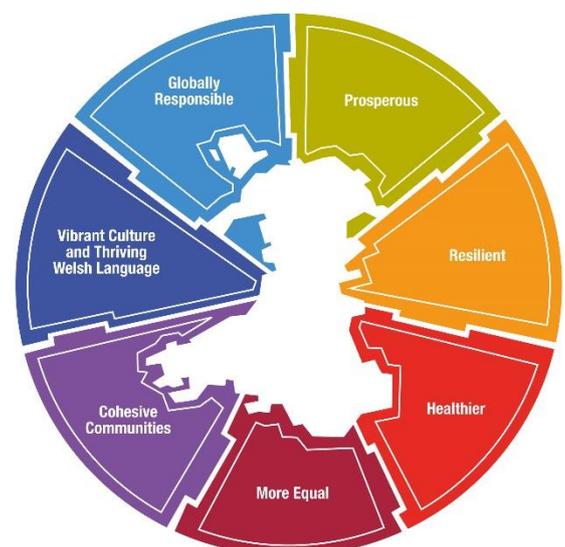
The [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#) is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It is to ensure that public bodies listed in the Act think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.

The Act sets out a “sustainable development principle” which is about how the public bodies listed in the Act should go about meeting their well-being duty under the Act. The principle is made up of five ways of working that public bodies are required to take into account when applying sustainable development.



The Act sets seven well-being goals, which together provide a shared vision for the public bodies listed in the Act to work towards. These goals must be considered as an integrated set of seven to ensure that the relevant links are made in the context of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

In addition to the well-being duty placed on listed individual public bodies, the Act also sets a well-being duty on specified public bodies to act jointly via public services boards (PSBs) by contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals.



What is the One Newport Public Services Board (PSB)?

The Act establishes a statutory board known as the [Public Services Board](#) in each local authority area. In Newport, the One Newport Public Services Board (PSB) brings together the city's public service leadership and decision makers. The membership includes four statutory partners and a wide range of invited partners, which are as follows:



Collectively members of the PSB are responsible for developing [Newport's Well-being Plan 2018-23](#) with the support of the wider partnership across the city.

What is the Local Well-being Plan?

The five-year [local well-being plan](#) was published on the 3 May 2018 and sets out the PSB's priorities and actions until 2023 to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Newport. The plan sets out local well-being objectives, priorities and steps that the board proposes to take to meet the objectives and is the main work-plan and focus of the PSB.

CHAPTER 2: THE PLAN

One Newport PSB Well-being Plan

In developing the plan we utilised the [Community Well-being Profiles](#), which were produced during an [assessment of local well-being](#). These profiles enabled PSB members working with other partners and professionals to agree thirteen main priorities that form the basis of the plan, which were as follows:

Economic Well-being

1. *Improve the perceptions of Newport as a place to live, work, visit and invest*
2. *Drive up skill levels for economic and social well-being*
3. *Support regeneration and economic growth*

Social Well-being

4. *Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life*
5. *Long and healthy lives for all*
6. *Ensuring people feel safe in their communities*
7. *People have access to stable homes in a sustainable supportive community*

Cultural Well-being

8. *People feel part of their community and have a sense of belonging*
9. *Participation in sports and physical activity is important for people's well-being*
10. *Participation in arts, heritage and history is important for people's well-being*

Environmental Well-being

11. *Newport has a clean and safe environment for people to use and enjoy*
12. *Improve air quality across the city*
13. *Communities are resilient to climate change*

Our Well-being Objectives

The well-being plan was required to set out local well-being objectives and the steps that we proposed to take to meet the objectives. In line with the five ways of working four well-being objectives were developed that deliver against multiple well-being goals and encompass the thirteen priorities identified.

The well-being objectives agreed by the PSB were:

1. *People feel good about living, working, visiting and investing in Newport*
2. *People have skills and opportunities to find suitable work and contribute to sustainable economic growth*
3. *People and communities are friendly, confident and empowered to improve their well-being*
4. *Newport has healthy, safe and resilient environments*

Rather than rationalising the priorities we identified five crosscutting interventions that would span these priorities and maximise the contribution to all the Well-being Goals and objectives. The interventions chosen were:

- *The Newport "Offer"*
- *Strong Resilient Communities*
- *Right Skills*
- *Green and Safe Spaces*
- *Sustainable Travel*

Progress against each of the Interventions is detailed in the next chapter.

One Newport PSB Local Well-being Plan Structure

This structure shows how the goals, objectives, priorities and interventions link together.

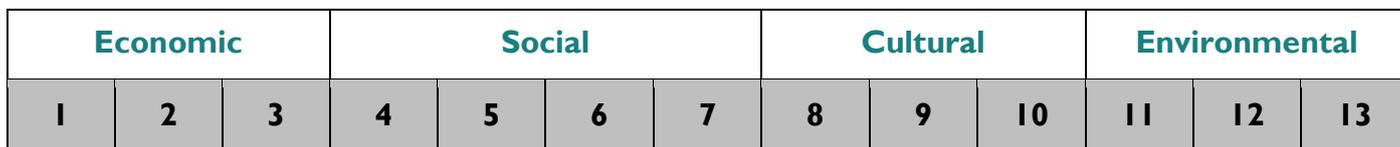
Well-being Goals



Well-being Objectives



Priorities



Integrated Interventions

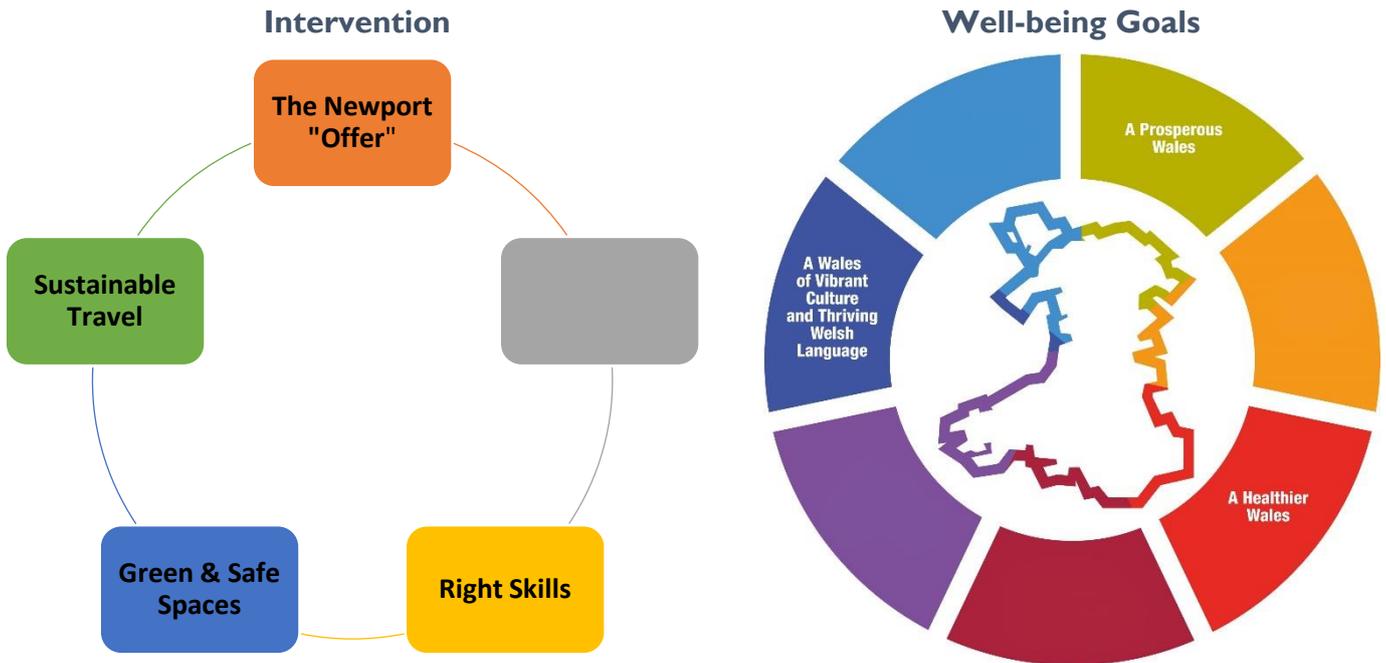


CHAPTER 3: OBJECTIVE PROGRESS

People feel good about living, working, visiting and investing in Newport

To demonstrate progress made against this well-being objective during 2019-20 a number of case studies have been identified. Each case study / example includes the following details: a brief description; which Intervention(s) & Well-being Goals it relates to; how the 5 Ways of Working were used; any performance measures; and plans for the future.

Promoting the Newport Offer

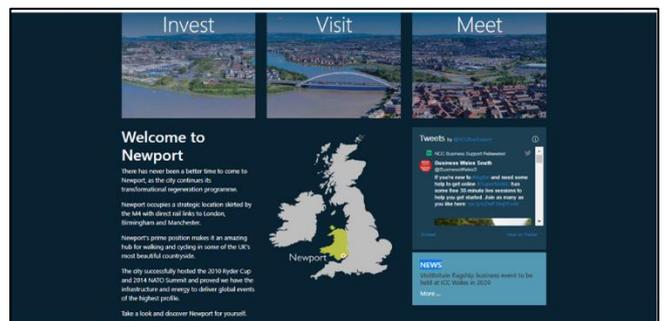


As PSB partners we have been contributing to the development of the Newport Offer. At the same time, we have been aware of the need to promote Newport’s advantages as a location for business investment and tourism, in order to support jobs and the economy. We have also sought regular feedback from local people on their perceptions of the city and realise that there is also more to be done to increase city pride.

We have created a new stand-alone [website](#) for the city which showcases Newport’s strengths, assets and desirability as a destination for businesses and visitors with the aim of:

1. Attracting individuals to Newport and increasing trade for local tourism businesses including accommodation providers, restaurants, retail and attractions; and
2. Selling Newport as an excellent location for businesses therefore attracting investment and new jobs to the area.

In addition, the website promotes opportunities for cycling, walking, sport and recreation in the city. We have also created a new investment brochure for the city to support the website.



Many of the things that make Newport attractive to visitors are also things that make Newport a great place to live and support personal well-being. We therefore asked a panel of local members of the public of different ages and areas of interest to share their views on the new website and if they thought we had overlooked anything they consider important in Newport's quality of life. As a result, we made changes to the website to better reflect the city's diversity and are working with Y Fforwm Iaith to develop and profile Newport's Welsh language offer.

5 Ways of Working



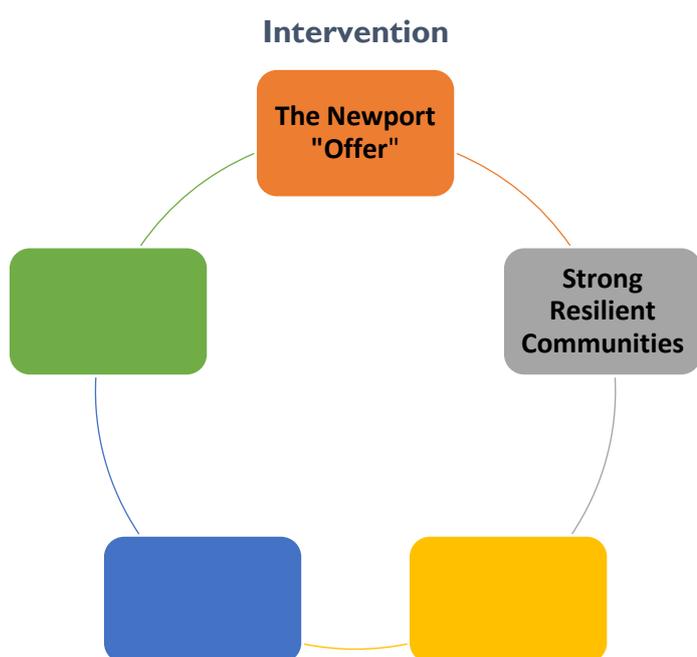
The Newport destination website is part of the PSB's work to support **long-term** growth of the city's economy and attract new investment. It is also intended to contribute to changed perceptions of Newport and increased city pride among local people. The new website showcases the city and is a vehicle to promote the developing Newport Offer, to which many of the Well-being interventions are **integrated** – Right Skills, Green & Safe Spaces and Sustainable Travel in particular. The new website is a **collaboration** between the PSB, Newport Economic

Network and the city's Destination Management Group comprising businesses that form part of the visitor economy. A panel of local members of the public were asked to be **involved** and give their feedback on the new website and destination brochure. Changes were made to the website to respond to comments that it did not sufficiently celebrate the city's diversity.

Looking Ahead to the Future

The website has the potential to grow with new content as we continue to regenerate the city and develop the Newport product, linked to our work to promote access to green space and sustainable travel options. The website will be able to function as a resource to support local people in participating in local culture, heritage, sport and events as well as promoting the city to external markets.

British Transplant Games





Newport welcomed inspirational athletes to the city when it hosted 'The 2019 Westfield Health British Transplant Games' in July 2019. Organised on behalf of the charity Transplant Sport UK, the aim of the Games was to raise awareness of and increase organ donation through a festival of sport and life that took place in venues across the city.

The multi-sport and social event attracted over 1,000 transplant recipient athletes and more than 1,500 supporters, including donor families, to Newport.

Transplant survivors, including children as young as three, took part in sports such as athletics, basketball, cycling, football, golf, snooker, swimming, tennis, volleyball and the Donor Run, an inclusive event open to the public.

The event also provided a volunteering opportunity for transplant recipients and the wider community, with 200 volunteers taking up a range of roles from marshalling to liaising with athletes, supporters and VIPs, and helping at the opening ceremony.

Key local aims were for Newport transplant recipients and their families to be inspired to participate in sport as well as for the public to engage in conversations with loved ones about organ donation.

The Games also showcased the city and its sports facilities, and is stated to have had a direct economic impact to Newport and South Wales in the region of £1.8 million. View the following video to see how the event unfolded – <https://youtu.be/vMvtGGuczR4>.

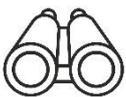


5 Ways of Working

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



Key aims of the event were to encourage transplant survivors to participate in sport for **long term** health benefits and also to increase organ donation in Wales and across the UK in the short, medium and long terms by encouraging people to have conversations with their loved ones on their own wishes regarding organ donation. The event delivered against a number of the PSB's priorities including: Long and healthy lives for all; 'People feel part of their community and have a sense of belonging'; 'Participation in sports and physical activity is important for people's well-being'; 'Improve perceptions of Newport as a place to live, work, visit and invest'; 'Skills for economic and social well-being'; 'Support regeneration and economic growth'; and 'Provide children and

young people with the best possible start in life'. There is **integration** between this initiative and a number of the well-being goals for Wales. The staging of all large scale events in the city requires close **collaboration** between the Council, Police and South Wales Fire and Rescue Service. This event was also a collaboration with Westfield Health, Welsh Government, Newport Live, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and the other health boards across Wales, NHS Blood and Transplant, Kidney Care UK, Anthony Nolan Register, Donor Family Network and Believe Organ Donor Support. Over 200 volunteering opportunities gave transplant recipients and their families, and the wider community to be directly **involved** in the staging of this event.

Performance Measures

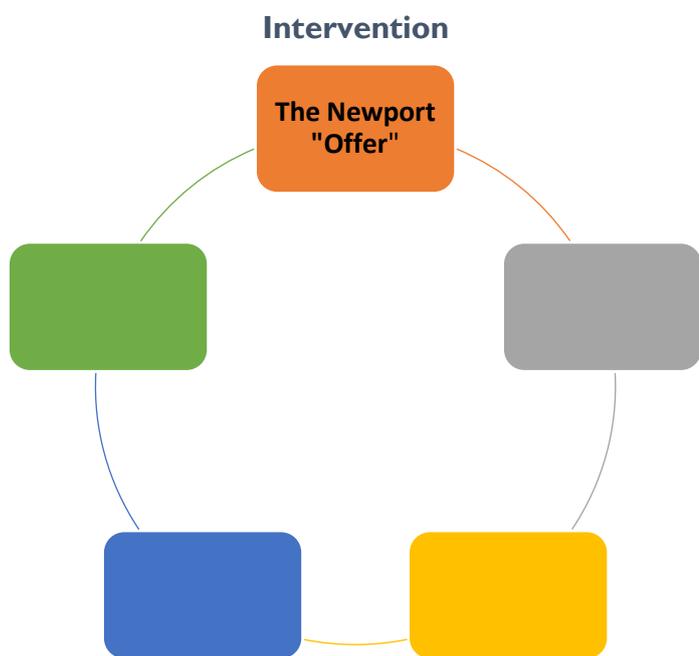
With over 2,000 people registered for the games and 1,326 supporters across the weekend, this was an incredible success. 24 sports were held at 13 different venues across the city, which could not have been possible without the 250 volunteers.

The Games worked with numerous hotels amassing over 7,000 bed nights in the area, bringing an Economic Impact to the Region of £1.8 million. The publicity achieved by the Games in 2019 generated a Total Combined Media Reach of 3.3 billion.

Looking Ahead to the Future

As a donor city, we will continue to encourage people to have the conversation regarding organ donation and encourage participation in sport by transplant survivors and their families.

City Centre Regeneration



We have worked together proactively to encourage investment and create a more sustainable, diverse and vibrant city centre at a time when economic downturn and growth in on-line shopping has adversely affected high streets everywhere. During the year we made progress on a number of regeneration projects as part of a masterplan to ensure the city centre is an attractive place to live, work, visit and study. Our work complemented major private sector schemes to transform key city centre buildings into new homes, and hotel, restaurant, commercial and retail space.

A key arc of the City Centre Masterplan is diversification of the economic offer. The redevelopment of the sixteen-storey Chartist Tower to provide a hotel, conferencing and office space alongside an enhanced

retail offer has been the flagship project. This £15m development was brought forward with our support. As well as bringing the first 4* hotel to Newport city centre, it will reactivate almost 13,000 sq m of vacant commercial space and create hundreds of jobs and training opportunities.

We are also investing in the commercial and retail offer of key heritage buildings in the city centre, to preserve and restore vitality to these assets. With the support of £2.5m Heritage Lottery and Welsh Government funding, we are extensively refurbishing the city's Victorian Market Arcade, an important part of Newport's shopping and architectural history which had become substantially run down. Working alongside heritage partners and the Newport NOW business improvement district, we are restoring the arcade and seek to restore it as an attractive commercial proposition, providing secure, flexible start-up space.

Approval has been given to the redevelopment of the city's Indoor Market. This £12m scheme will again be delivered in partnership with the private sector and will transform the struggling building by creating a flexible working hub, 48 new apartments, performance and events space and new food hall, while retaining and sustaining the existing market offer.



High quality office space has been identified as a key driver in the competitiveness of urban centres and further public and private investment has been seen in bringing forward the Mill Street Hub for development. This £4m project will bring 54,000 sq ft of excellent quality office and flexible working space at the long-vacant former Royal Mail Sorting Office overlooking the city centre.

In principle support has also been given to repurposing the lower floors of the former railway station building to generate space for start-up businesses in the digital, tech and creative sectors. This would complement use of the upper floors by Cardiff University's prestigious National Software Academy and support Newport's role as a leading digital hub for the City Region.

Housing development is critical to our regeneration programme, and our partnership work means that more people will be living in our city centre in the future. The nationally-significant development of an apartment complex of apartments for the over 55's was completed in early 2020, replacing a row of dilapidated shops with a striking new building of stylish homes that set a new standard in city living. New high quality affordable apartments have been created in the listed Albany Chambers and the Charles Street community learning centre, preserving and respecting the original architecture of the buildings. In addition to delivering affordable housing schemes, we have facilitated private developments on Upper Dock Street, High Street and Bridge Street to achieve the right blend of accommodation suitable for a modern city centre.

Our work in the city centre includes access to attractive open spaces. New murals were installed in St Paul's Walk which honour 100 years of women's history and the centenary of the 1918 Representation of the People Act. The mosaics provide a place of interest for local people and visitors and were designed and created by a local artist working with local primary schools and community groups.

Other initiatives to improve the appearance of the city centre and give opportunities for active travel include development proposals for a new footbridge over the railway line improving access to the city centre.

We are aware of the importance of a safe and welcoming environment for residents, workers and visitors. Our regeneration work focused on long term sustainability is backed up by our Safer City Centre

initiatives, through this we are working with partners to address rough sleeping and tackle issues like anti-social behaviour.

During the year we have also staged events such as the British Transplant Games and Half Marathon which have supported the city centre and wider economy. These events have provided opportunities for participation in sport and volunteering as well as to showcase the city.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



City Centre regeneration has a **long term** time frame with a focus on projects that will shape the future performance and sustainability of the city centre, as well as improving the vibrancy of the city centre in the short and medium terms. Diversification of the economic offer and prevalent uses is inherently linked to supporting the long term economic sustainability of the city centre. A key outcome is to **prevent** decline in the city centre in terms of its vitality but also, its architectural heritage by breathing new life into historic buildings that are at risk due to vacancy and

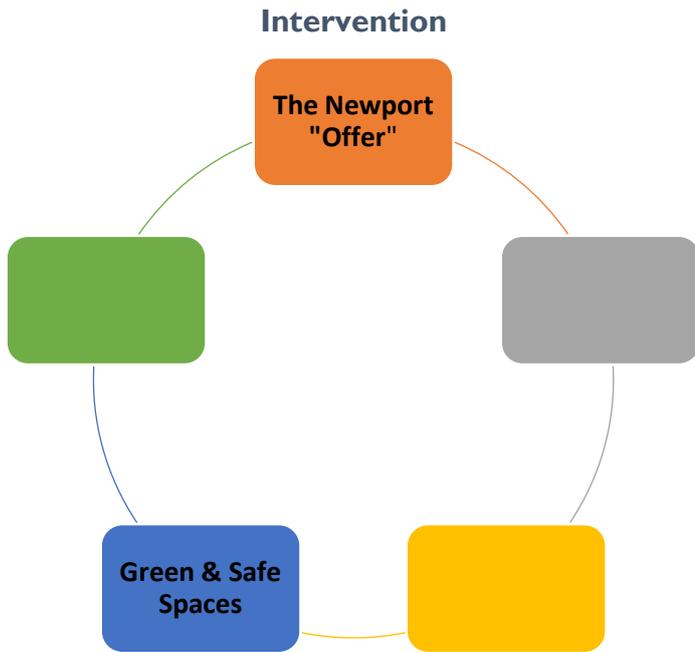
dereliction. City centre regeneration forms part of a City Centre Masterplan. The work forms part of the Newport Offer intervention but **integrated** closely with other interventions and the overall Well-being Objectives by creating opportunities for employment, training and skills development, by supporting a strong resilient city centre community, by including access to safe open space and building in options for active and more sustainable travel. Delivery of regeneration projects and the maintenance of an attractive, welcoming and safe city centre has relied on strong **collaboration** between public sector partners but also extensive collaboration with the city centre business community, the voluntary sector, and private sector developers and investors working within the framework of a long-term masterplan. Regeneration projects have **involved** local partnerships including Newport Now, the city centre Business Improvement District, heritage, schools and community groups, and feedback from the public. Projects have encouraged the direct involvement of the public in sharing memories, learning about the city's past and, in the case of the St Paul's mosaics project, contributing with their own creativity.

Performance Measures

To review performance measures for inclusion.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Partners will continue to work together to ensure the city centre has an attractive offer as a place to work, visit, study, live and invest. Work across our interventions will contribute to city centre regeneration and we will take account of the Wales Placemaking Charter in delivering this. We will also continue to work in partnership with private sector investors and businesses on the delivery of transformative flagship projects.



Newport City Council has secured funding to support development of Green Infrastructure (GI) within the City Centre. GI is the network of natural and semi-natural features within and between our villages, towns and cities. These features range in scale, from street trees, green roofs and private gardens through to parks, rivers and woodlands. The introduction of GI schemes will trial and deliver nature-based solutions for sustainable drainage and biodiversity, expanding urban greening within the heart of the city.

The schemes will support the regeneration and place making goals for the city centre and bring forward Newport’s Green and Safe Offer which aims to bring health & wellbeing benefits for city residents by recognising the value of green & blue infrastructure.

6 sites (A to F) have been identified along the River Front and Northern Gateway, detailed in the maps below.



Key design features of the proposed schemes include:

- Pocket Parks extending green corridors creating habitats for pollinating insects and increased biodiversity
- Sustainable drainage systems (SuDs) integrated into sites using well designed and easily maintainable techniques including raingarden and tree pits
- Urban tree planting to extend the green canopy and reduce CO2 levels

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



Expert advice is being sought on the best design and the maintenance of green infrastructure which should mean it lasts for the **long term** to benefit future generations. It may also help pave the way for further greening of the city. This meets six of the well-being goals and **integrates** with the well-being objectives of the well-being plan, and Area Statement for South East Wales. We will **involve** partners, public and businesses prior to final selection of locations and interventions. The funding bid was developed in **collaboration** with Newport City Council and Natural

Resources Wales on behalf of the PSB. By increasing the GI in the city it helps to mitigate and **prevent** effects of climate change by capturing carbon and introducing SuDS in flood risk areas to build up flood resilience. The improved look and feel of the city centre will make it a more desirable location to live and work, and provide more access for more people to quality green space.

Performance Measures

Proposed completion of finalised schemes is March 2021. Five Core Principles of GI will be monitored: multifunctional; biodiverse; adapted for Climate Change; healthy; and smart & sustainable to ensure the projects are successful.

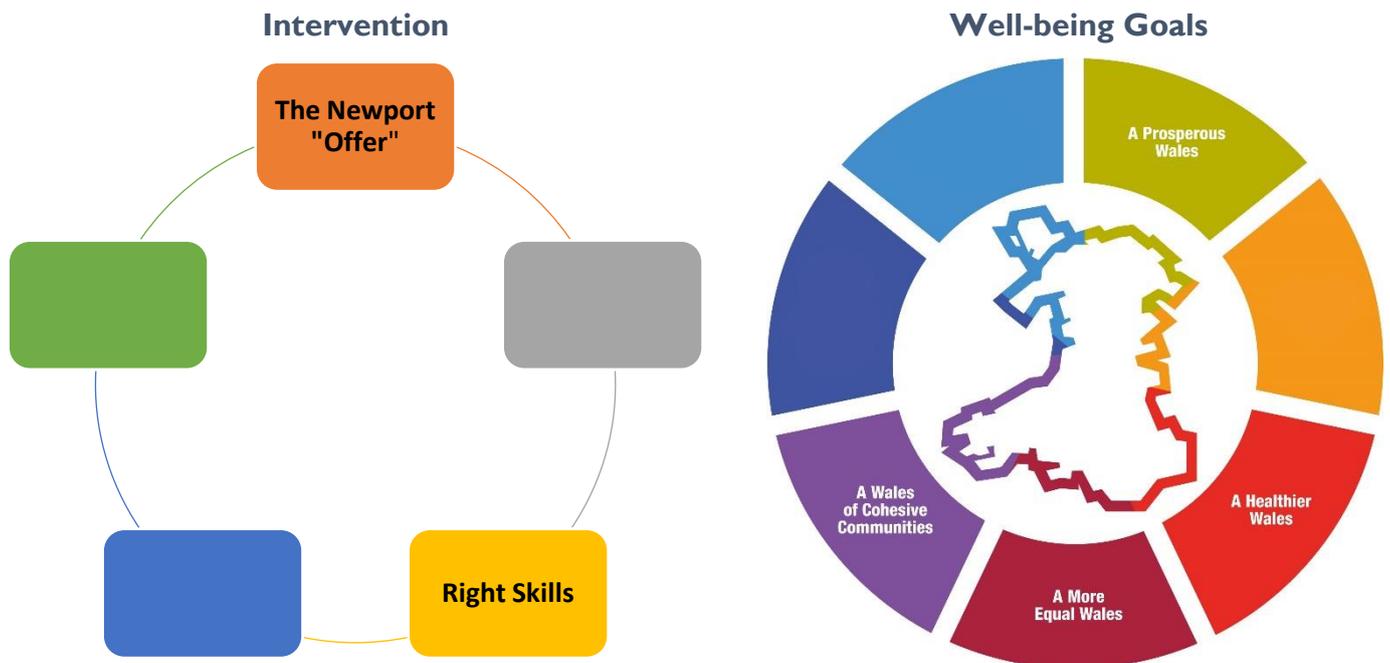
Looking Ahead to the Future

Next steps are underway which include writing a proposal to procure expert consultancy advice to inform design and maintenance advice. Plans are being drawn up for a tender process for the programme of work to be carried out. Proposed completion of finalised schemes is March 2021.

People have skills and opportunities to find suitable work and contribute to sustainable economic growth

To demonstrate progress made against this well-being objective during 2019-20 a number of case studies have been identified. Each case study / example includes the following details: a brief description; which Intervention(s) & Well-being Goals it relates to; how the 5 Ways of Working were used; any performance measures; and plans for the future.

Newport Commitment



We have developed the Newport Commitment employer pledge to ensure that young people and unemployed in the city can develop their skills and talents, secure decent work and reach their full potential.

The pledge enables the public, private and third sector to work in partnership with schools and education providers to connect children and young people to the world of work. It also aims to open up opportunities for the long-term unemployed.

The Newport Commitment seeks to drive skills development and educational attainment in the city, as well as support economic growth through close liaison with employers to understand recruitment needs and skills gaps now and for the longer term. By working closely with education providers, employers have the opportunity to develop in local people the soft and technical skills they need for growth, as well as support the development of key life skills among citizens.

Through the pledge, employers are able support young people in a number of ways:

- Support for Curriculum delivery: including literacy, numeracy and digital competency, financial education, mentoring and the development of learning resources
- Career exploration and employability skills: including work placements, help to set up student businesses and social enterprises, CV writing and mock interviews, career talks and visits to school premises



- Leadership and Governance: including placements by employer volunteers in schools and by school leaders in business, developing business management skills within education, business leaders becoming school governors
- Pathways to employment: including apprenticeships, volunteering opportunities, traineeships, internships.

The Newport Commitment is supported by a website where employers can post their job and training opportunities, and young people and the unemployed can post their CVs with a view to people and jobs being matched. While the focus of the Commitment is to promote to citizens the career opportunities available to them on their doorstep, we are also linking to similar initiatives in Cardiff and Bristol to facilitate access to opportunities along the M4 corridor.

As part of the development of the Newport Commitment, we have held workshops with schools to obtain feedback and ensure that schools and students are able to gain maximum benefit from the initiative.

The anticipated outcomes of the project are:

- Integrated education and employment pathways for young people and long term unemployed.
- Easy access for young people to information and advice on career opportunities.
- An increased number of school leavers securing a positive, sustainable destination in education, employment or training.
- A more robust working relationship with businesses to support the needs of a growing city.
- Young people with the right skills to support the economic growth sectors in Newport.
- More young people in vulnerable groups, at risk of becoming NEET, making a successful transition from school to future education, employment or training.
- A higher overall number of young people aged 16 – 25 economically active.
- Young people directly influence service planning and delivery and ensure ownership and relevance.
- Long term unemployed, with no formal qualifications gaining an essential skill, technical or job specific qualification.
- Long-term unemployed gaining employment.

The Newport Commitment was due to be formally launched in March 2020 following development work during the year. However, the onset of the pandemic meant that this could not happen. We will be relaunching during the 2020/21 academic year.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



The Newport Commitment raises awareness of opportunities for work and training in the city so that young people can explore potential careers and achieve their potential **longer term**; co-constructing the future workforce with business will support long term economic development. The Newport Commitment will help **prevent** young people from becoming NEET and also unemployment and skills shortages in the city. The work **integrates** two of the objectives in our Well-being Plan: ‘People feel good about living, working, visiting and

investing in Newport’; and ‘People have skills and opportunities to find suitable work and contribute to sustainable economic growth’. The project has potential for scalability to enable it to underpin or link with other skills initiatives within Newport or the wider region through the Regional Skills Partnership or the Western Gateway Partnership. The initiative relies on close **collaboration** between public bodies, local employers, schools and education providers: Newport City Council Education, Coleg Gwent, University

of South Wales, Careers Wales, Job CentrePlus and training providers. Young people and businesses will be **involved** in the ongoing development of the Newport Commitment and the web-based platform to ensure its continuing relevance.

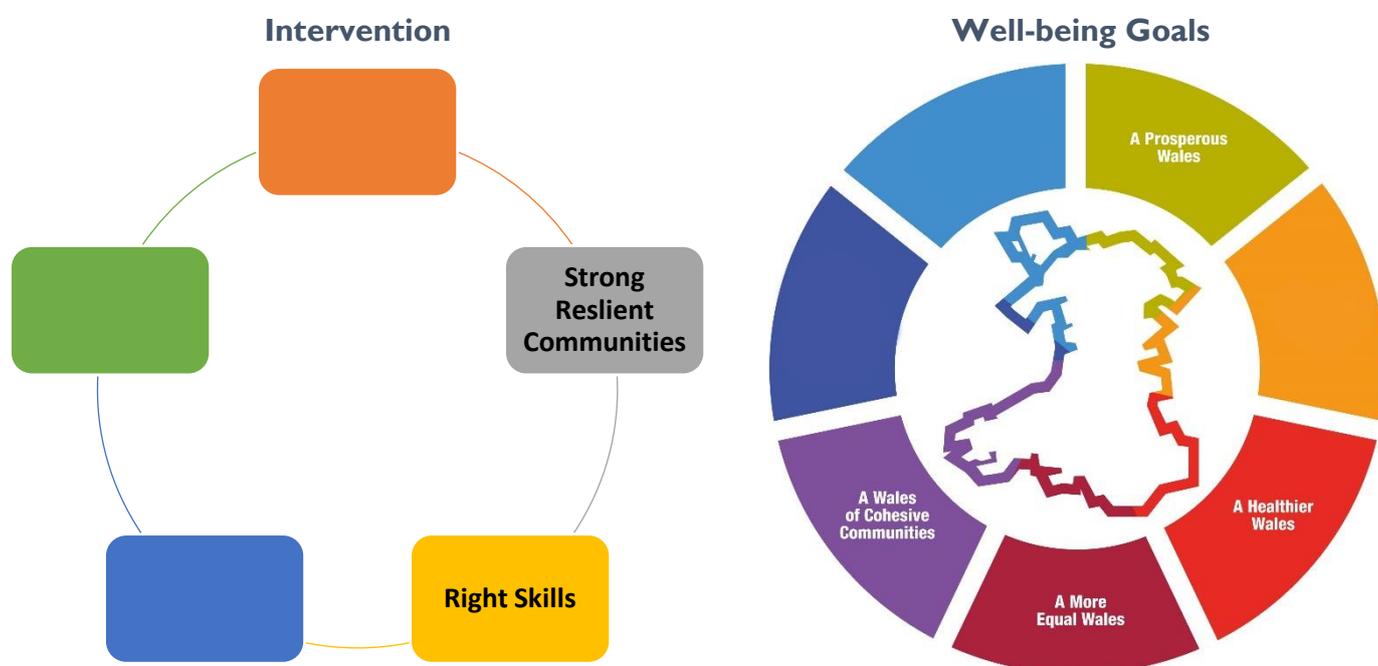
Performance Measures

The success of this partnership will be measured through the number of individuals accessing career, skills and employment opportunities. In view of the delay to the planned launch, performance measures will be set for the 2020/21 academic year.

Looking Ahead to the Future

As training provision through the Newport Commitment grows, it offers the potential to support skills development for a low carbon economy and carbon literacy, and to support Welsh language skills within the workplace. In this way the Newport Commitment could contribute to delivery of additional well-being goals to those it already contributes to.

Reach / Restart Project



This project supports Refugees, Asylum Seekers, EU Citizens and Migrants to overcome English language and other potential barriers to integration in the city. Since starting the project in June 2019, we have built a strong partner network to obtain referrals for the project, signposted participants to relevant support and offered education, training and employment opportunities.

Reach / Restart is delivered from Newport Central Library where we have a dedicated Hub. Due to the parameters of the project at a Wales-wide level, some of the work supports refugees only while support to learn English is available to all migrants with a language barrier.

We offer holistic assessments to only refugees that identify barriers to integration and follow up support to remove these barriers. Any English language issues are identified through ESOL assessments and we provide classes to help the participant learn English.

Through our assessments, we have identified barriers that include housing, finance and debt, access to benefits, a lack of relevant education and training and poor health and well-being. By taking steps to remove the barriers, we can help equip refugees to secure sustainable employment and become an asset to Newport.

The project helps secure sustainable employment opportunities for participants, targeting growth sectors and skills gaps, and translating homeland qualifications so that they are recognised in the UK. While receiving support from the Reach / Restart project, participants are also referred to other appropriate programmes such as Journey to Work, Inspire to Work, Communities for Work and Communities for Work Plus which can lead to employment routes, traineeships, and local volunteering/placement opportunities.

Due to the success of the work to date, the project has been extended to December 31st 2021, so that this work can continue to help migrants settle in Newport and contribute to their communities and the economy.

We receive the majority of referrals from DWP but also have them from our partners. These include:

- Welsh Refugee Council
- British Red Cross
- Share Centre
- Gap Centre
- NCC's Vulnerable People Relocation Project
- Lighthouse Project
- NCC Hubs including the homeless team
- Home Options
- BAWSO

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



The project delivery is based around helping migrants to settle in the UK by supporting them to work and contribute to their local community. By removing barriers to integration, offering English language, employment and training / educational advice, guidance and support, the project aims to ensure that they are safe and settled enough to sustain employment for the **long term**. The project aims to tackle many barriers that **prevent** migrants from settling in the UK. These include:

- preventing poverty by offering financial issues, including benefits advice and employability support;
- preventing homelessness by offering housing advice and support;
- preventing health and well-being issues by helping migrants to register with doctor, dentists, social services and family intervention teams;
- preventing the inability to integrate by offering language assessments;
- preventing social isolation by offering advice about the local support groups and activities available in their local area.

The project supports both the **integration** of Right Skills and Safe Cohesive Communities interventions in our Well-being Plan and relies on the support and **collaboration** of various partners to deliver an effective service. We have built good working relationships with partners by discussing common themes and issues that affect the participants that we support. Partners **involved** include Cardiff and the Vale College; Newport City Council; Coleg Gwent; British Red Cross; Vulnerable People Relocation Project; Welsh Refugee Council; Adult Learning Wales; DWP; Adult Community Learning; Gower College; Coleg Cambria; Welsh Government; Welsh Strategic Migration Partnership; and Gap Centre. We also work closely with Citizen Advice Bureau, Housing association & the Home Office to ensure that any integration issues are resolved.

Performance Measures

The delivery of the project started in June 2019. Initially, referrals and activity was slow but engagement and partnership building helped the project to gain traction. Outcomes have exceeded targets and supported refugees and asylum seekers to eliminate barriers and successfully integrate into their communities. Performance measures for June 2019 – March 2020

Performance Measures	Target	Outcome
Holistic assessments of support for refugees	52	58
Individuals assisted with employability support	15	43
English as a second language (ESOL) assessments	95	641

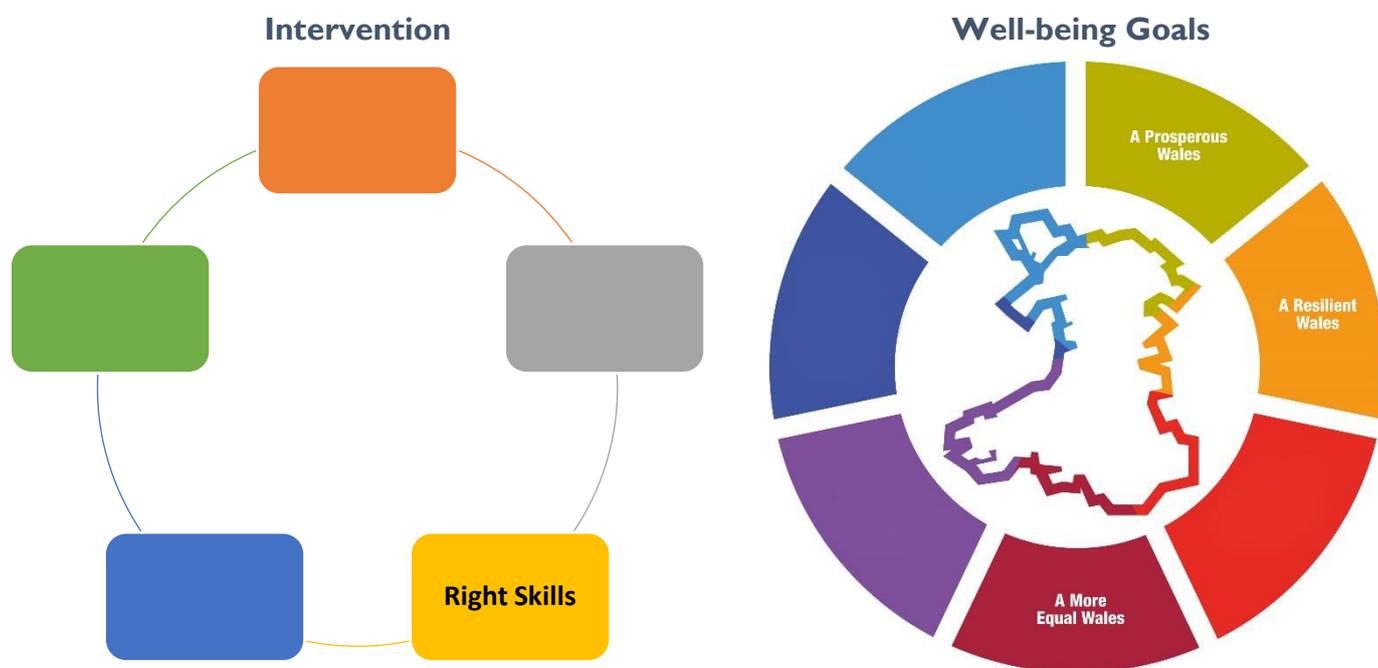
Looking Ahead to the Future

The project was initially planned to end in December 2020 but it has recently been confirmed that the project has been extended until December 2021. The extension will give refugees and asylum seekers continued support that is vital if they are to integrate and thrive in the UK. We will strive to improve the services we deliver by sharing best practice and by gaining feedback from project participants.

The recruitment of the Employer Engagement Coordinators will benefit the project by changing employers' perception of refugees and asylum seekers and help them to secure sustainable employment in the UK. They will build relationships across Wales so there will be a pool of employment opportunities available for the beneficiaries.

We will continue to build partnerships and improve the services we deliver to meet changing needs by tackling common themes and issues that beneficiaries face when settling in dispersal areas.

Youth Engagement and Progression Framework



The Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (YEPF) is for everyone working with and supporting young people to engage and progress in education, training and work. This Framework is focused on reducing the number of young people aged 11 to 25 who are not engaged in education, employment or training (NEET). There are six components to this Framework, which are as follows:

- Identifying young people most at risk of disengagement.
- Better brokerage and coordination of support.
- Stronger tracking and transitions of young people through the system.
- Ensuring provision meets the needs of young people.
- Strengthening employability skills and opportunities for employment.
- Greater accountability for better outcomes for young people.

The NEET agenda has been a long term strategy which has seen the numbers of young people not engaged in education, employment or training reduce considerably over the years from having the highest number of young people not engaged in education, employment or training to being the second lowest in Wales.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



The YEPF is in place to prevent young people from becoming NEET in the short and **long term**. The YEPF aims to ensure young people can find education, employment and training and achieve their potential. The well-being of learners is paramount and vulnerable learners are offered additional services and a Lead Worker. Through the YEPF an early identification toolkit is used to RAG all secondary school learners. This **preventative** toolkit along with practitioner knowledge identifies all learners who are at risk or who need additional support.

School leavers (Year 11, 12 and 13) transition meetings take place prior to leaving to ensure progression routes are in place. The YEPF is linked with work across Wales coordinated through Welsh Government and WEFO. It is also **integrated** with four of the well-being goals and two of the Well-being Plan well-being objectives. This is a wholly **collaboration** approach involving PSB partners. The key to successful implementation of the framework has been a whole system approach in which roles and responsibilities are more clearly defined and in which all of the services and providers working with young people collaborate to deliver better outcomes for young people. Feedback is provided from learners through our collaborations. This **involves** school learning coaches, pre-16 alternative learners and collaboration Sixth form students. Recommendations from the young people are followed up through a robust process.

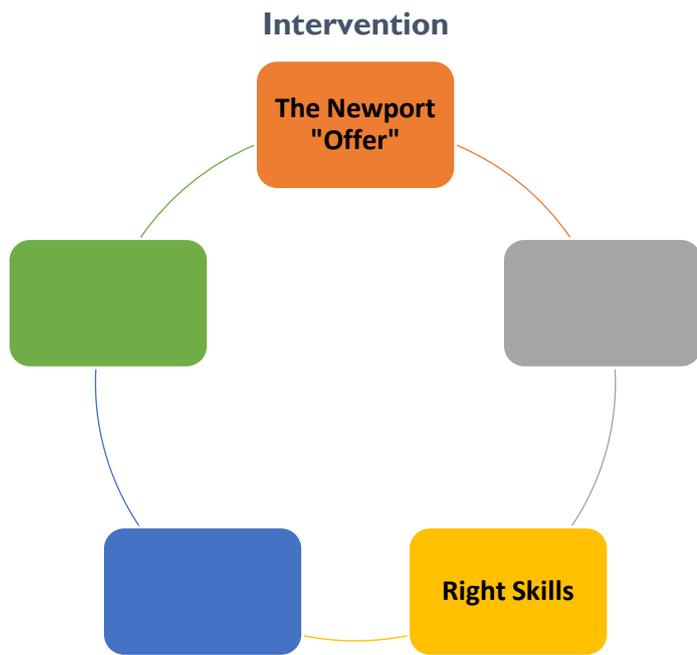
Performance Measures

Performance Measure	Year			
	2016	2017	2018	2019
Percentage of Year 11 learners not in education, employment or training (NEET)	1.7%	1.3%	1.1%	0.9%
Percentage of Year 13 learners not in education, employment or training (NEET)	2.44%	1.52%	1.65%	1.8%
Percentage of 16-18 young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)	3.44%	2.75%	2.65%	2.6%

Looking Ahead to the Future

YEPF work has continued to progress as far as possible due to Covid and continues to build on good work. New ways of working have been introduced and it remains a priority for all involved. The Youth Support Grant has received its full funding 2020/21 and Welsh Government has agreed flexibility in the approach for the grant's action plan.

Newport Jobs Fair



1,400 people attended our Jobs Fair in Newport City Centre this year and we had 65 exhibitors offering immediate vacancies, career opportunities, training and careers advice.

This is now a popular annual event and is increasing in representation from major local employers including PSB partners and well-known national brands offering jobs with opportunities for progression. Partners such as Careers Wales, Business Wales and the Department for Work and Pensions are an important part of the event, raising awareness of the ongoing advice and support they can provide. All have provided positive feedback on the value of the event in terms of recruiting new employees or taking on clients who would like support.



5 Ways of Working



Newport Jobs Fair provides easy and extensive access to opportunities for work, training and careers advice in the city in a one-stop shop setting. The intention is to help people find work that suits them in the short term but will also benefit their career and employability for the **longer term**. The Jobs Fair also helps the immediate and longer term workforce needs of local employers. It helps **prevent** local people from being unemployed by opening up opportunities in a very direct, informal and easily accessible way. The city centre location reduces travel

barriers and direct face to face contact removes the need for access to technology, addressing any issues of digital exclusion. The work is **integrated** by supporting two of the objectives in our Well-being Plan: “People feel good about living, working, visiting and investing in Newport”, and “People have skills and opportunities to find suitable work and contribute to sustainable economic growth”. It also links to other areas of work such as support for the Armed Forces Covenant (a section of this year’s fair was dedicated

to support for Veterans transitioning into civilian work) and city centre regeneration with the employment / training opportunities that this presents. The initiative enables PSB members to work together **collaboratively** as employers but is organised with wider partners, notably Careers Wales and the Department for Work and Pensions.

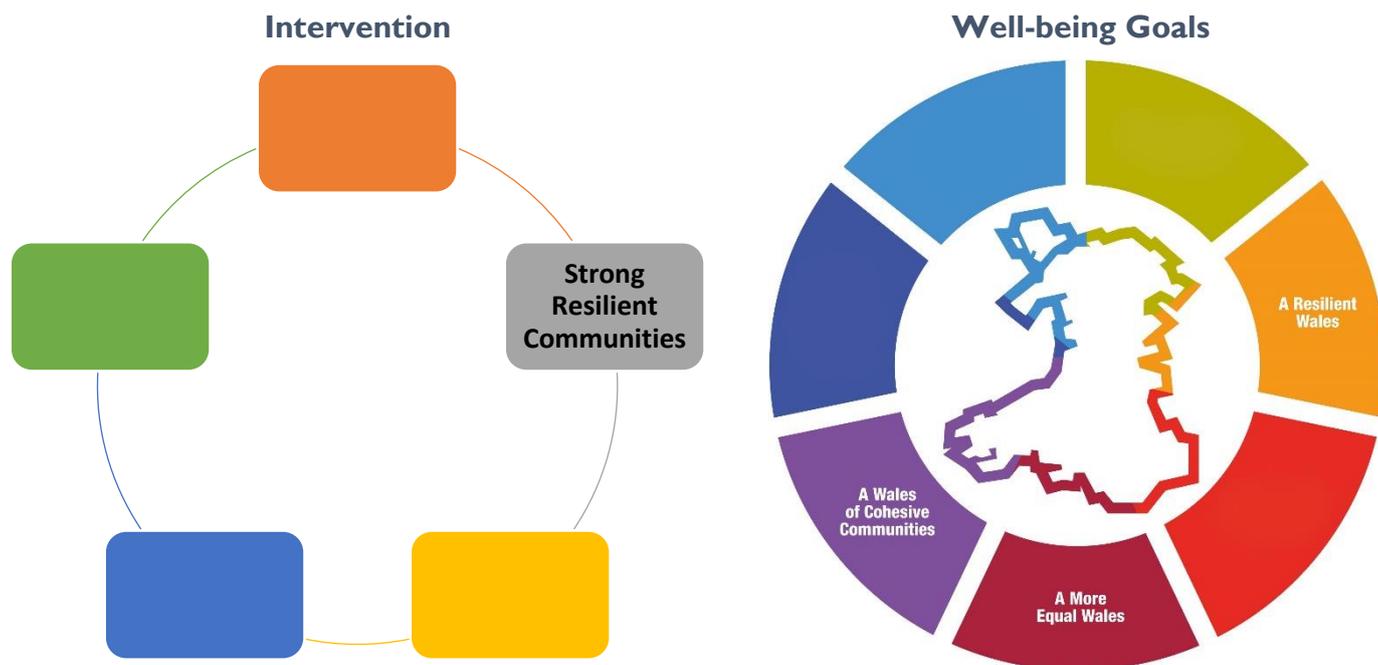
Performance Measures

Performance Measures	Target	Outcome
Number of exhibitors	50	65
Number of visitors to the event	1,000	1,376

People and communities are friendly, confident and empowered to improve their well-being

To demonstrate progress made against this well-being objective during 2019-2020 a number of case studies have been identified. Each case study / example includes the following details: a brief description; which Intervention(s) & Well-being Goals it relates to; how the 5 Ways of Working were used; any performance measures; and plans for the future.

LGBTQ+ History in Full Colour Engagement Event



An engagement event was held to provide information, support and an opportunity for young people from the LGBTQ+ community to meet. To ensure it was young people led, the event was organised by Newport Youth Council (NYC) and pupils from a local school. The event was attended by key decision makers from Newport City Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner who listened to attendees on the day to gain a perspective from the young LGBTQ+ community.

5 Ways of Working



This was part of **long term** series of actions to support the young LGBTQ+ community, including a consultation to ensure the service was developed with their concerns and issue in mind. A cross-section of young people were **involved** in the development, planning and organisation of the event. Attendees were supported in accessing **preventative** well-being services from a variety of agencies including mental health and how to report a crime increasing resilience. The planning and development was carried out in **collaboration**, by NYC, a local school,

Heddlu Gwent Police and a third sector organisation, with each member bringing their own expertise, contacts and resources to ensure the event was inclusive and informative. A range of goals were impacted by the event **integrating** the well-being objectives of a public and third sector.

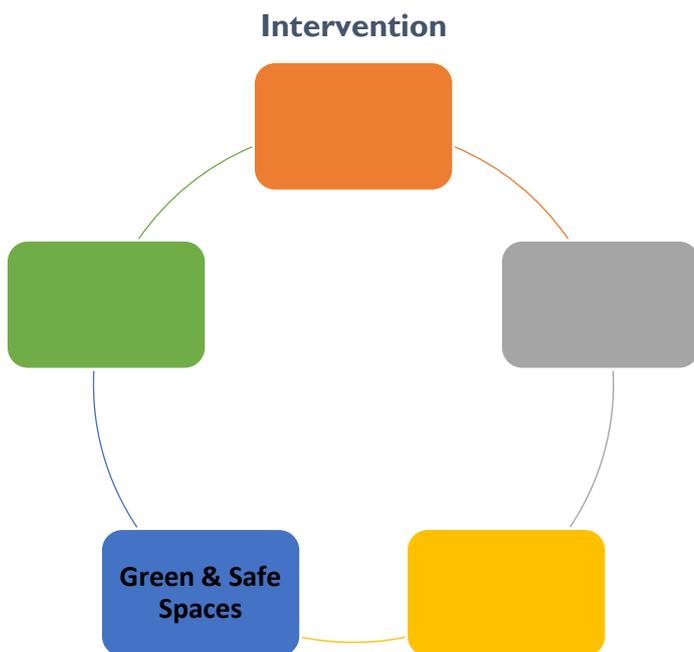
Performance Measures

Work around LGBTQ+ support for young people living in Newport will be measured via quarterly performance management meetings and quarterly reports.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Following this event and the effective engagement with citizens, we will be developing a service to support young people to have a safe space to meet others and access support. Two youth workers will be recruited to work with the LGBTQ+ community in order to promote well-being and create a more equal, resilient and cohesive community.

St Woolos Community Garden Regeneration



St Woolos is a rehabilitation hospital, with patients often staying for up to 4 weeks or more. This extended length of time can often have a range of effects on a patient's health and wellbeing such as depression; loss of independence; loss of mobility and increased chance of infection.

By aims of regenerating the garden into a more pleasant, greener space were to:

- Provide a calming and relaxing area
- Allow patients and their relatives to leave the ward area for a short time
- Give staff a quiet zone to take their break
- Give staff an area to 'think' / 'headspace'





5 Ways of Working



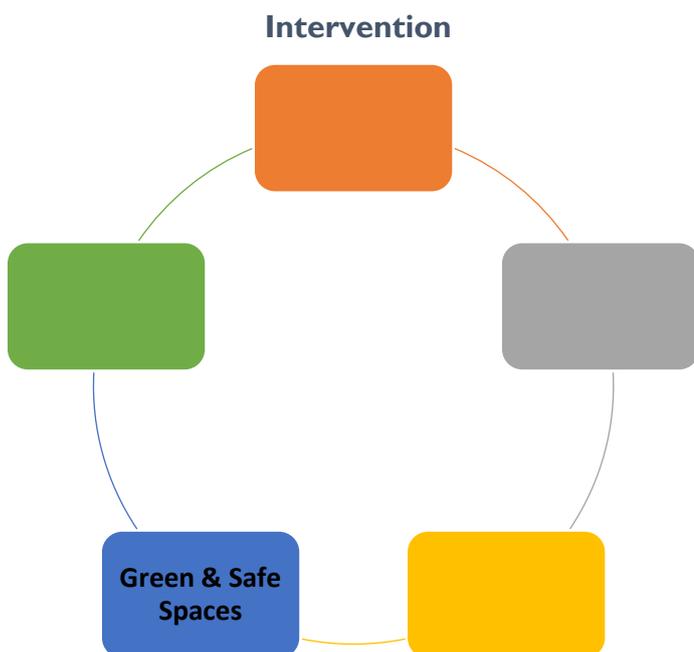
Several organisations worked together in **collaboration** to bring the project to life by being **involved** in providing both manual or financial support, including Growing Spaces; Wood Shed (St Cadocs Hospital); RLO Law; Melin Homes; Carol Wheeler; and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Regenerating the garden will have a **preventative** effect on patients well-being reducing the negative impacts of a long stay in hospital. The **long term** maintenance of the garden has been secured through gifts donated by local services that were raffled, with the money donated to the

upkeep of the garden area. This project takes an **integrated** approach to well-being and supports six of the well-being goals and does not adversely affect the remaining one. In addition, it supports three of the Well-being Plan objectives.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Staff from all areas within St Woolos Community hospital are using the garden area during lunch breaks and hopefully in the Spring the patients will benefit far more greatly from the surroundings.

Llysaght Community Garden Green Flag



This community garden in the urban Lliswerry area of Newport received recognition for the quality of its green space. Located on the grounds of the Lysaght Institute, owned and run by Linc Cymru (Linc), the community garden received a Green Flag Community Award for the accessible green space it provides for local residents.

Wales now holds more than a third of the UK's community Green Flag sites, which rely on volunteers to maintain their excellent facilities. There are now award-winning green spaces in every local authority. Newport had its first Green Flag Community Awards announced in 2019 with Maindee District and Lysaght Institute.

Established in December 2018 with support from Linc's Growing Green Spaces project, the community garden is tended by the Friends of Lysaght group, local residents of Orb Drive in Lliswerry, who volunteer by maintaining the garden and putting on community events.

The vegetable patch, wildflower meadow and educational events, all contributed to them achieving the Green Flag Community award, one of the first to be given in Newport.

The group have liaised with the ground maintenance contractors to draw up a different mowing schedule for the wildflower meadow and the flowering lawn, and worked with partners such as Natural Resources Wales and Bug Life to hold community information days.

With more people using the community garden, particularly at planting and celebration events, plans are in motion to create a new, larger vegetable plot, with a second raised bed and an outside water source.

Caroline Jeremiah, local resident and community garden volunteer, said:

"It's exciting to be able to get together with my neighbours and local community to do something different. It's lovely being out in the open air in a green space, and great having a product from our vegetable patch at the end of it too!"

Luke Penny, Natural Resources Project Officer, Linc, said:

"I am proud of the hard work the local community have put into the community garden and how they have come together to achieve one of the first community Green Flags in Newport."

Lucy Prisk, Keep Wales Tidy Green Flag Coordinator, said:

"I am really pleased that the Lysaght Institute has been successful in reaching the high standards required to achieve the Green Flag Community Award. It's the first year we have awarded any sites in Newport and the Institute is now one of only two community sites in Newport with this prestigious Award, so quite an achievement. I would like to thank all the volunteers involved at the Institute for their hard work in creating such a lovely green space for everyone to enjoy."



5 Ways of Working

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



This was a **collaboration** between residents of the local community; Friends of Lysaght group; Linc Cymru; Natural Resources Wales (NRW); Keep Wales Tidy; and Bug Life. The garden's is maintained through the **involvement** of the Friends of Lysaght group and local residents. The outcomes of all partner organisations and community groups were **integrated**, contributing to six of the well-being goals as people learn new skills; grow food for the local community; get active; and provide a social activity with neighbours. Enhancing green space for people and

nature helps **prevent** and reduce physical and mental health problems and increase a good sense of wellbeing, increases biodiversity and supports wildlife, helps to tackle the nature emergency, and helps Newport become more resilient to climate change. In the **long term** maintenance will be supported by Linc and the Lysaght Institute, and Natural Resources Wales are exploring longer term sustainable funding.

Performance Measures

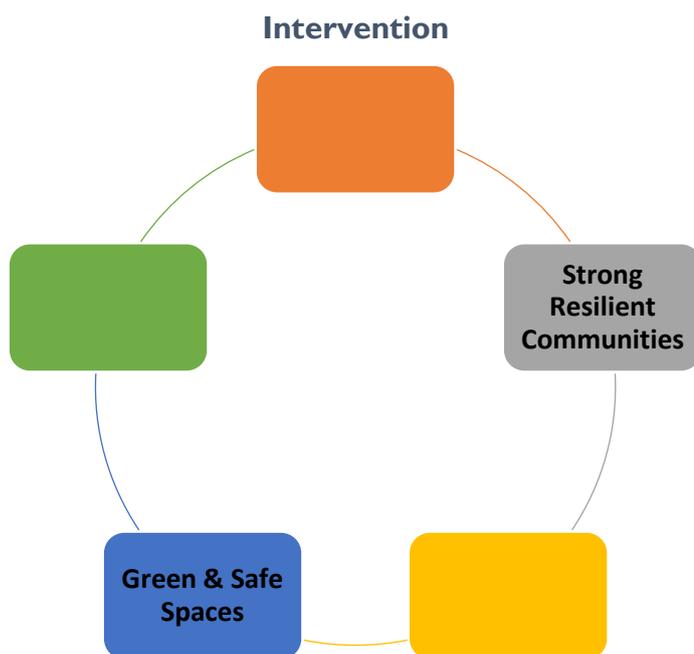
The achievement of the Green Flag Community Award.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Awards are given on an annual basis and winners must apply each year to renew their Green Flag status. An application will be made by the 31 January 2021 deadline.

Further exploration will take place around expanding the community garden, for example, another raised bed and an outside water source, and encouraging more people to be a part of the community garden. The Green and Safe engagement officer will work with those involved to identify sources of funding. Consideration will need to be given to find ways to work safely outside in a community gardening setting.

Family Fun Day – St Pauls Walk



An underused open space in the city centre at risk of attracting anti-social behaviour was identified, with an event organised to attract citizens to the space, and provide opportunities to engage with young people and families. A number of activities took place throughout the day including a plant making workshop, information from the police and diversionary activities supported by Newport Live (the local leisure trust).



5 Ways of Working



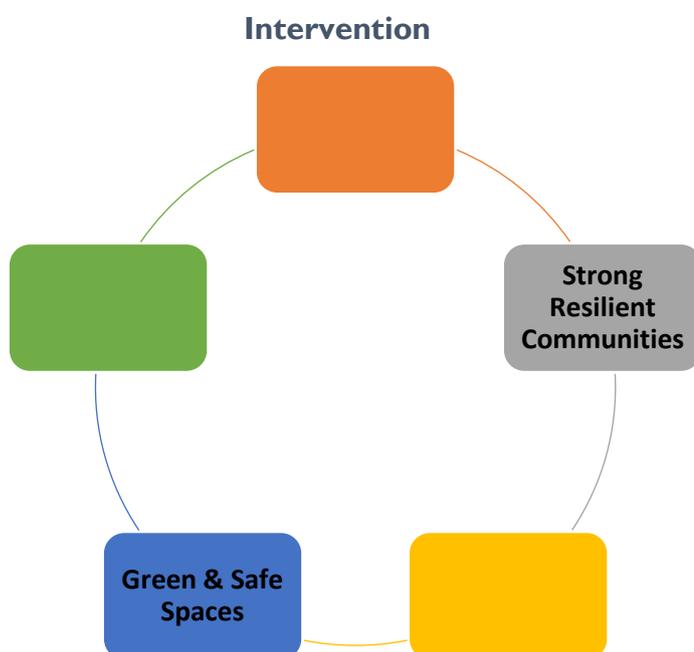
This was the start of a series of activities to promote the space and help the community to take ownership, aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour for the **long term**. The event was developed through the **involvement** of the public providing feedback on the space and the issues they encounter. This has helped citizens take ownership, develop community pride and help to **prevent** future anti-social behaviour. We worked in **collaboration** to ensure there were fun and creative activities available for families.

The project impacted on two of the interventions, with this **integration** also complementing the wider aims of the partner organisations involved.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Through the success of the event, future events will be planned for the space. However due to the recent pandemic and activities in the space being weather dependent this has not taken place. It is hoped to build on this success for 2021.

Pill Walkabout Action Days



The event is part of the ongoing multi-agency Pillgwenlly area focus work which responds to concerns from the Pill community with regards to anti-social behaviour and crime. Activities for the action day focused on involvement and engagement, stakeholder education and environmental improvement work.

5 Ways of Working



This long term co-ordinated partnership approach enables the community to see positive working relationships from a wide variety of stakeholders. The aim was to divert the community away from crime and develop a sense of community ownership and pride, helping build resilience. We **involved** local people, who raised their issues and concerns. Feedback included that it was good to see partner agencies engaging and communicating with them. Youth services and members of Resilient Communities engaged with young people, providing outreach work,

organised sports and other activities for them to participate in. These diversionary activities provided an opportunity to **prevent** young people engaging in anti-social and criminal activity. PSB members including RSL's; Newport Live; Gwent Police; and the Council **collaborated** together on a mixture of engagement, enforcement and education. The outcomes of the project impacted on two of the interventions, with this **integration** also complementing the wider aims of the partner organisations involved.

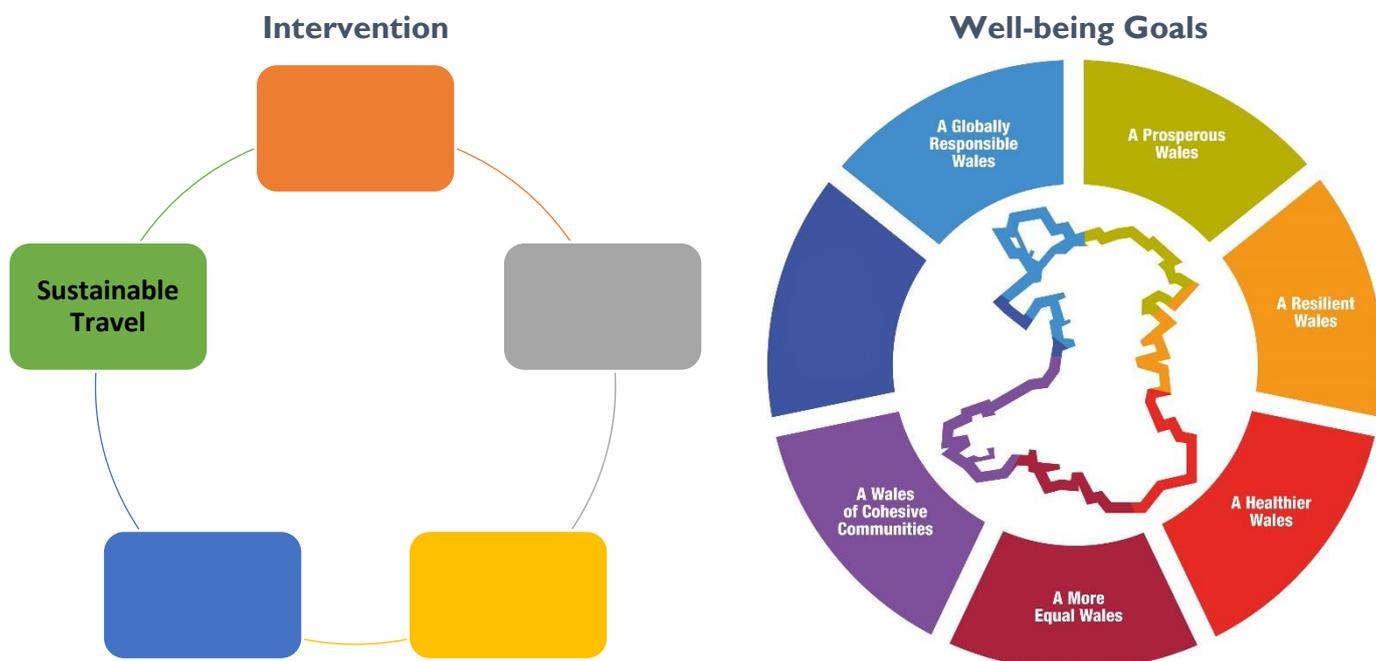
Performance Measures

Performance will be measured through community perception and crime data collected via a range of engagement exercises for example, resident surveys, Community Well-being Profiles.

Looking Ahead to the Future

A new strategic group has been developed to discuss issues concerning Pill – reporting to Safer Newport – the cities community safety partnership. The group offers a co-ordinated, targeted placed based approach to issues raised by residents. Community engagement will be an integral part of its development plan.

Safer Routes in Communities Programme



Sustrans is working in collaboration with Newport City Council to identify how routes around St David’s RC Primary can be improved to enable more active travel and how they might better link into existing and future active travel networks.

The school is constrained by a busy road (Cardiff Road) and a railway line. The environment outside the school is congested at pick up and drop off times. In summary this creates an unattractive environment, a number of significant health and safety risks and a barrier to those that may otherwise chose to walk and cycle.

A film about the project was produced by Sustrans, which is posted on [YouTube](#).



5 Ways of Working

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



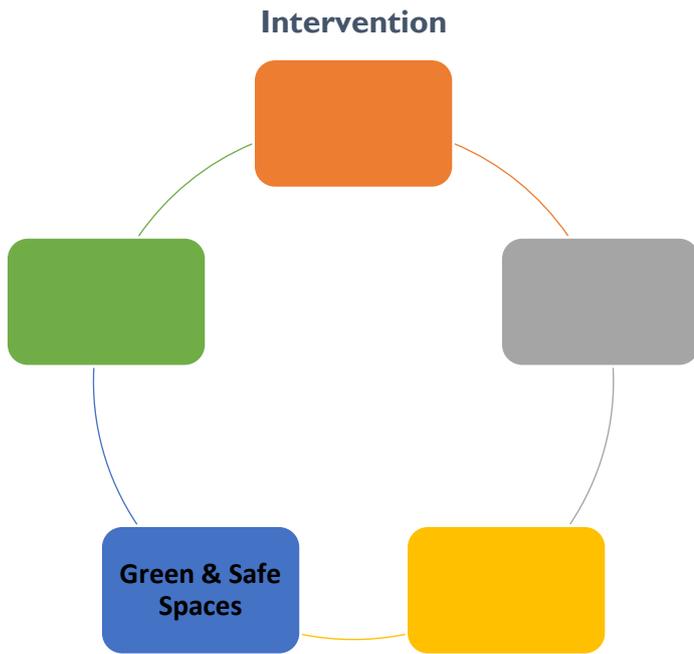
Improving active travel routes and reducing traffic congestion has **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations by contributing to the improvement of air quality and the reduction of carbon emissions in the Newport area. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. Poor air quality is linked to cancer, bronchitis, asthma, dementia and many other diseases. Improving active travel routes and reducing

traffic congestion will contribute to the improvement of air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. This project takes an **integrated** approach to well-being and supports six of the well-being goals and does not adversely affect the remaining one. In addition, it supports three of the Well-being Plan objectives. The project has worked in **collaboration** with St David’s RC Primary School and **involved** the surrounding community to create a people centred approach to designing a safe and attractive environment for walking and cycling.

Looking Ahead to the Future

In the coming year this scheme will deliver on highways improvements for access to the main school entrance and drop off facilities at Tredegar Park.

Green and Safe Network



The Green and Safe Network continues to facilitate partnership working. The network has convened at regular workshops, led by Natural Resources Wales and Newport City Council. Partners are beginning to work together to maximise benefits, through the delivery plan, and through changing the way they work together. The network has created links between partners and community groups. Regular network communications and facilitation is required to continue this work.

Organisation involved include: Gwent Wildlife Trust, Health Board, Community Councils, Duffryn Community Link, Bumble Bee Conservation Trust, GAVO, Groundwork, Growing Space, Keep Wales Tidy, Linc, Maindee Unlimited / Maindee Edibles, Melin Homes, Menter Iaith Casnewydd, Newport City Homes, Newport Live, Newport BID, Newport Mind, Newport Litter Strategy, Pobl, Gwent Police, South Wales Fire & Rescue, Sustrans, United Welsh- Families First, Valleys Regional Park, Natural Resources Wales, and Newport City Council.

5 Ways of Working



The different partners outlined above are **involved** and **collaborating**. Many partners carry out engagement activity **involving** the communities they work with. For example, Maindee Unlimited carried out a consultation event in February 2020 on a number of locations for creating green space in Maindee which will feed into their plans. The network balances short-term needs with the **long term** and **integrates** by cross cutting many of the well-being goals. Enhancing green space for people and nature helps **prevent** and reduce physical and mental

health problems and increase a good sense of wellbeing, increases biodiversity and supports wildlife, helps to tackle the nature emergency, and helps Newport become more resilient to climate change.

Performance Measures

There were 2 Green Flag awards achieved by Lysaghts Community Garden and Maindee Unlimited St Mary's Church Community Garden. There are 120 people on an updated network mailing list.

There will be future engagement of internal and external communications.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Developments for the future include:

- Creating a communications plan for the upcoming 12 months and beyond, with an adapted approach due to COVID-19 to ensure maintaining regular communication and collaboration. Communications will include promoting Newport's green space and the work of network partners.
- Organising the next Green and Safe workshop.
- Supporting partner and community organisations with funding, for example, Maindee Unlimited ongoing rainwater harvesting at the Maindee Triangle plans, enhancing Lysaght Community Garden, working with Newport Hubs to enhance green space and participation from local communities.
- Working with partners including Pobl and Melin housing, Newport Council, local residents, and Natural Resources Wales Fly Tipping Action Wales to improve Barracks Wood area.
- Supporting with further Green Flag applications.

Active Travel Routes



Active Travel networks continue to be improved across the city. Further implementation of works in network 'corridors', branching out from the city circular, including: Crindau Link, Coed Melin route, Corporation road, Nash road and surfacing of tow paths to city boundary.



Proposals for other routes are ongoing these include Devon Place Footbridge, western approaches and Monkey island. Continual development and design have followed the proposals put forward as part of the Integrated Network Map in 2017.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



Improving active travel routes and reducing traffic congestion has **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations by contributing to the improvement of air quality and the reduction of carbon emissions in the Newport area. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. Poor air quality is linked to cancer, bronchitis, asthma, dementia and many other diseases. Improving active travel and reducing traffic

congestion will contribute to the improvement of air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. Active Travel is **integrated** across six of the well-being goals, and does not adversely affect the other one. In addition, it supports three of the Well-being Plan objectives. All active travel improvements in Newport are based on the Integrated Network Map (INM) the map was developed in **collaboration** with the public to identify existing suitable routes for pedestrians and cyclists and suggest other potential routes that would help create an integrated network of active travel routes across the city. Further change and additions to routes since the development of the map have also **involved** local residents and the wider public before changes are made.

Performance Measures

In 2014, Newport had 6.6 km of cycle routes (2.7 km traffic free and 3.9 km on road). Since that time over 20 km of routes suitable for Active Travel have been developed. The works have included bridges, crossing points, junction improvements and signage. The routes improved include:

- Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal tow path,
- Crindau link,
- City Circular,
- Lliswerry link,
- Corporation Road,
- Nash Road,
- Brickyard lane,
- Coed Melin,
- Bettws lane.

During the April of Covid-19 lockdown, cycle and walking counters showed a total count of 27,508, compared with 12,470 in the previous April. This was over a 100% increase on last year's figures, at all locations on the Newport network.

Looking Ahead to the Future

A programme of works is being developed for the next 3-5 years based on the current [Integrated Network Map](#). This will include:

- Promotion: Promoting active travel routes and the benefits of travelling actively.
- Monitoring Usage: Monitoring active travel counters across the city.
- New Routes: Developing and physical implementation of routes through Welsh Government funding.
- Integrated Network Map: Engaging with community stakeholders and the public to refresh and update the Integrated Network Map. Consultation will begin in September 2020 and the new route map will be published in 2021.

In addition, in May of 2020 the Welsh Government invited expressions of interest to introduce measures to improve safety and facilities in response to the challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic is creating on sustainable and active travel.

The two main aims of the funding are public health and safety (social distancing) and to mitigate potential increases in car use by encouraging active travel modal shift.

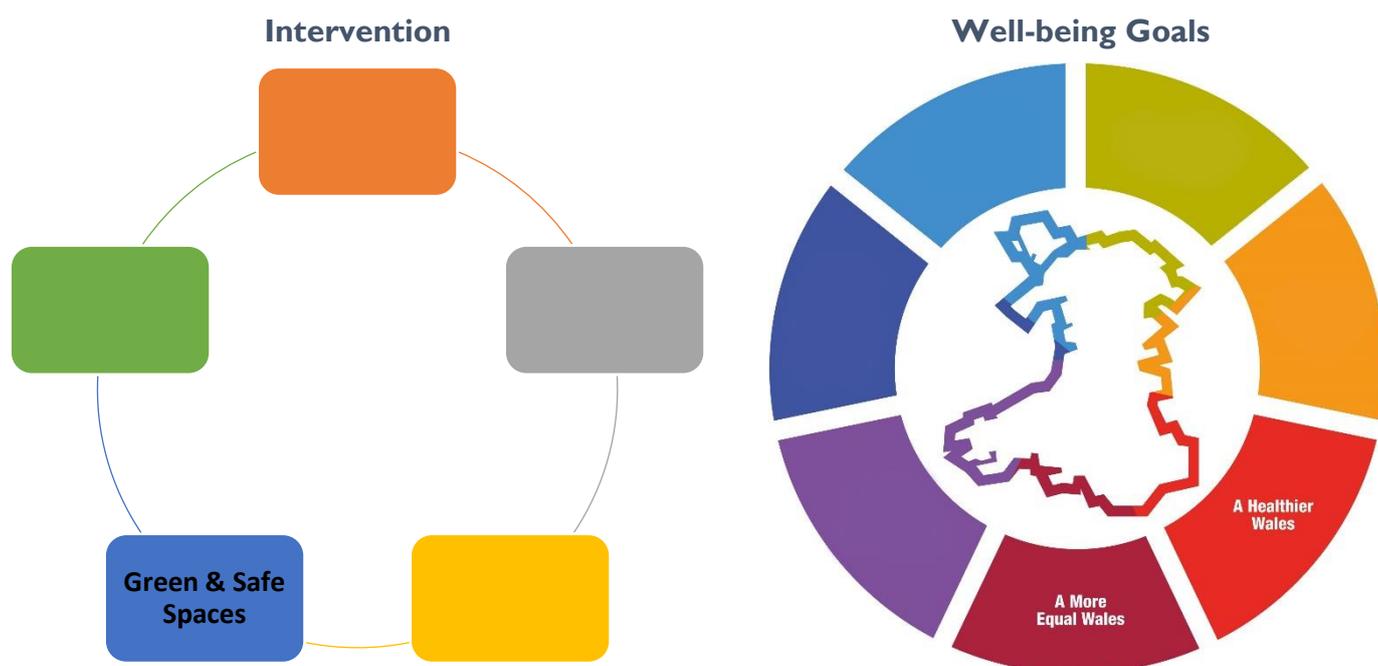
The following active travel schemes were successful:

- Temporary interventions in high footfall areas such as city centres and retail areas;
- Installation of social distancing measures at Newport Bus Station;
- A footway widening scheme on Corn Street and Skinner Street to improve pedestrian facilities and connectivity between Friars Walk and the Market Bus Hubs;
- Advanced cycle stop lanes and feeder lanes on the all junction arms at the junction of Wharf Road and George Street Bridge;
- 20-mile an hour speed limit trials to promote safety and active travel;
- Cycle priority lanes and one-way traffic system with reduced speed limits in the Gold Tops area to improve pedestrian and cycle access;
- Speed limit reduction, footway widening and cycle improvements on Chepstow Road; and
- Examine the potential for further cycling and pedestrian improvement in Caerleon.

The first two schemes are already substantially delivered with the preparation of the city centre, transport hubs and other high footfall retail areas for the reopening of non-essential retail, bars, restaurants and cafés. Over 150 signs, floor stencils and bollard sleeves have been provided, advising pedestrians on social distancing rules. Where appropriate, the main access points to the city centre have been gated to exclude non-essential vehicular access to create safe space for social distancing and outdoor seating.

The other schemes will be put in place over the coming months.

Greening Maindee



Maindee Unlimited was set up in 2014 to transform Maindee into a sustainable community with a strong local identity, strong local economy and a reputation as an attractive, safe, culturally vibrant and cohesive

place to live, work and relax. One of the areas of work Maindee Unlimited are leading on is greening of the local area. Projects developed in the last year have included:

St Mary's Community Garden

The garden won a Green Flag Community Award in 2019 and again in 2020. This area has been transformed from an unused and unloved patch of ground adjacent to the church into a garden which has been described as an oasis at one of the busiest road junctions in Newport.



The creation of the garden was funded by the People's Health Trust and designed and developed in consultation with the community. Within this safe space are paving with benches, a diverse range of planting, a wildlife garden and raised beds for fruit & vegetables.

Incidence of vandalism and fly tipping has significantly reduced, and the garden is now appreciated by people of all ages who come to enjoy the peace, the wildlife that the planting attracts and the green environment that can be found nowhere else in the vicinity.

The siting of the benches are ideal for social distancing – a factor not taken in to account at the time of creation.

Greening Maindee volunteers maintain the garden and some of the beds have been adopted by local residents for growing their own produce. In the near future the garden will also be used by a Positive Futures group.

Corporation Road

Areas of wildflowers and spring bulbs have been planted.

Walkway

The walkway from Corporation Road to Maindee Primary School has been a recent area of work. One area has been cleared of brambles, weeds and fly tipping and a gravel / Mediterranean style garden has been planted. The plants variety used can cope with drier conditions thus requiring less watering and maintenance. Signage has been installed. This area has been developed in consultation with the nearby community, has received numerous positive comments from the footfall using the path.

The walkway is a very well used public thoroughfare connecting Maindee with the river and the city centre. It is also a green corridor for nature which has the potential to be enhanced significantly for both people and wildlife. Maindee Unlimited are in the process of a submitting a funding application to the Local Places for Nature Capital Fund to enable the improvements to take place.



Maindee Primary School

Raised beds were created in the school grounds funded by Renew Wales and the High Sherriff's office in order to encourage parents and children to grow fruit & vegetables together. This area is planned to host the Soil Association Food For Life initiative although Covid 19 has delayed progress to date.

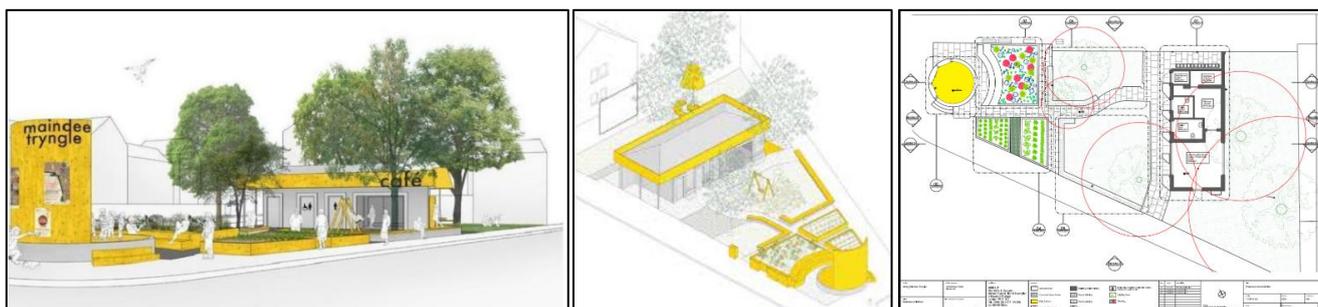


Orchard Walk

Fruit trees were planted on a pedestrian link to the river and city centre from Corporation Road, sadly 14 of the 17 planted were stolen. These will be replaced this autumn and fruit bushes added creating an edible walkway for the community. Proposals to create community allotments for local residents is also currently being considered.

Maindee Triangle – Chepstow Road

This is an exciting new project on the land of a former (council owned) toilet block and recreational space on Chepstow Road which has fallen in to disrepair in recent years and has suffered from general neglect, fly tipping and anti-social behaviour. In the last few years' proposals have been developed to transform the space into a café and vibrant community space with attractive outdoor space that includes performance area, climbing wall, attractive planting areas and seating. The project is underpinned by strong themes of sustainability including the installation of Rainwater Harvesting System and green roof bike shelter and pollinator friendly planting. It is hoped that the project will tempt visitors passing through the neighbourhood and help kick start a process of regeneration of the high street.



Wharf Road

Native trees and wild flowers have been planted.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term Prevention Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



The projects have reduced and **prevented** anti-social behaviour such as fly tipping, and increased the greenery of the area. This not only makes it more attractive but contributes to reducing carbon and mitigating climate and nature emergencies. Many partners have **collaborated** to support the work of Maindee Unlimited these include Community House Eton Road, Maindee Primary School, Woodlanders, Gwent Wildlife Trust, Bee Friendly, Maindee Unlimited, Maindee Festival, Natural Resources Wales, Keep Wales Tidy. The well-being objectives of all of the

partner organisations and community groups are **integrated** complementing each other. A motivated and committed community group are the driving force for this work, and they have the **long term** benefits of future generations in mind in all projects. A public consultation event took place in February 2020 **involving** over 150 people who completed surveys. The themes that emerged were more trees, better play facilities, parks, less litter, and healthier green spaces to enjoy.

Performance Measures

St Mary's Community Garden was awarded Green Flag Community Award status.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Wharf Road

Maindee has the least amount of tree cover in Newport so it's vital that coverage is increased to help improve local air quality and mitigate the effects of climate change. Maindee Unlimited intend to work with Newport City Council to significantly increase the number of street trees to increase the urban tree canopy cover in the neighbourhood.

Chepstow Road

A corner area opposite Harrow Road has been cleared in preparation for planting to enhance the approach to the Maindee area with the aim of providing a warm welcome. This will not be imminent due to the Japanese knotweed on the site that requires treatment.

Corner of Jeffrey Street off Wharf Road

Having consulted with local residents regarding green spaces, one of the main concerns received in feedback was the complete lack of play space for young children in the neighbourhood. The small plot of land Jeffrey Street has the potential to be developed into an exciting and stimulating 'Green Play' park set in attractive surroundings. A scheme of this kind would be warmly welcomed by young families in desperate need of a safe play space.

Lennard Street

The street will pilot the vision is to reinstate the street trees in existing tree pits and if successful other areas in the vicinity will be identified.

Corner of Halstead Street

Fly tipping will be removed and a green area also incorporating a pocket park will be created.

Eveswell

The community centre on the junction of Eveswell Street and Archibald Street is used by various groups including TOC H. Raised beds were installed there (funded by Renew Wales) at the request of the users of the centre. The intention is to develop the rest of the grounds as a community garden creating a safe and welcoming outdoor space for all to enjoy. The plans for the site are welcomed by local councillors and funding has been agreed with TOC H and are awaiting the go ahead to proceed. The site will also be utilised by nearby Eveswell Primary School as a Food For Life hub.

Maindee Car Park

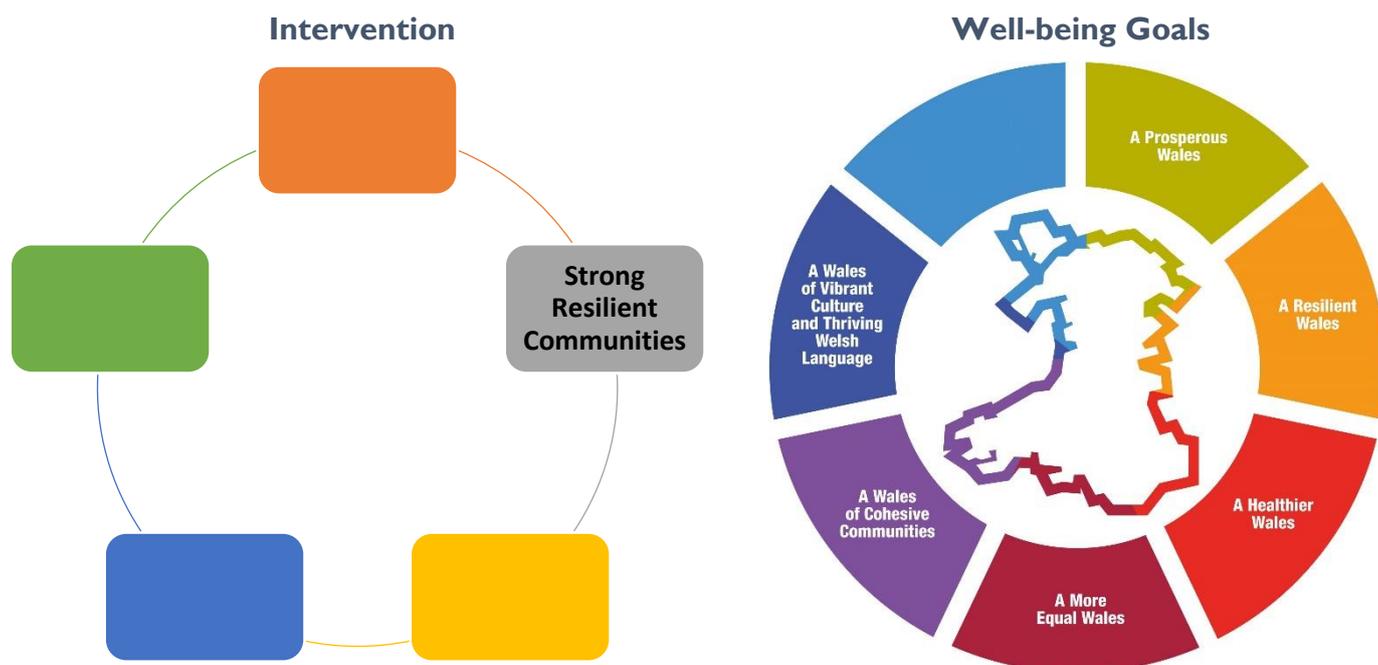
Plans have been drawn up to transform the car park into a more attractive area for the public, increased parking bays, electric vehicle hook ups, bike storage / bike docking facilities, sustainable urban drainage systems, dedicated recycling facilities, and the inclusion of extensive green infrastructure to enhance the space. The scheme would also provide recreational facilities for local residents including the creation of pocket park, outdoor gym apparatus, improved multi use games area (Muga) and family recreational space.

This work would require significant capital funding and a full feasibility assessment undertaken before work could commence. Maindee Unlimited has undertaken a community wide consultation and the feedback strongly supports this initiative and is currently in discussion with landscape architecture students to develop the proposals for the site.

Newport has healthy, safe and resilient environments

To demonstrate progress made against this well-being objective during 2019-20 anumber of case studies have been identified. Each case study / example includes the following details: a brief description; which Intervention(s) & Well-being Goals it relates to; how the 5 Ways of Working were used; any performance measures; and plans for the future.

Tackling Serious and Organised Crime by Increasing Social Capital in Ringland and Alway



We have been working with local communities to unlock the potential in community assets in a bid to prevent crime, protect the vulnerable and support victims. Heddlu Gwent Police, Newport City Council, Milton primary school, Newport City Homes and South Wales Fire and Rescue Service have been working with MutualGain, a specialist community engagement organisation to improve the way organisations work with the people they serve. Using World Café and Participatory Budgeting (PB) events, the partnership has been focusing on the Ringland and Alway areas of Newport. The two adjacent wards have unemployment and crime levels above the national average and have been experiencing serious and organised crime (SOC) related harm characterised by street level drug supply, child criminal exploitation, cuckooing, and vehicle theft.

The initiative kicked off in Spring 2019 through a World Café in which the partnership initiated conversations with residents about SOC and what they felt was needed to improve their community. Attendees were invited to form a community planning group ahead of a PB event where local organisations and community groups pitched their bids for project funding. The bids, which had to be related to preventing crime, protecting the vulnerable or supporting victims, were assessed by a panel of residents from the planning group, supported by staff from the partnership agencies. For an area that had traditionally struggled to engage with police and frontline services, it was no small achievement that this event attracted nearly one hundred participants of all ages.

A total of £15,000 of funding was made available by the Gwent Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) with £5,000 available per project. Sixteen bids at a combined value of £65,000 were received from a range of organisations in and around the Ringland and Alway area. Grants were

awarded to Gwent Police Cadets, Newport Samaritans, Ringland Primary School and the Alway Boxing Club to take forward community-based initiatives that would tackle vulnerability and contribute to safer and more empowered neighbourhoods.

MutualGain are also running a community coaching programme to provide additional support to local people and winners of the PB funds. This will support them to develop on a personal level and encourage them to achieve community focused goals that will provide foundations for stronger police / community relationships. The community feedback from the event has been exceptionally positive. MutualGain has since held feedback sessions with the community and partners and will be holding an Action Planning event in June to ensure the sustainability of the success of the programme to date.

5 Ways of Working



Improving social capital focusses on: building trust between local people & their neighbours; strengthening links & networks; and creating & reinforcing positive social norms. This forms a basis for **long term** improvements in community well-being and resilience to serious and organised crime. The social capital approach favours **prevention** and resilience to SOC rather than an enforcement only approach. A social capital approach exemplifies **integration** by tackling crime by making communities stronger, more prosperous, more attractive

and a better place to live. It also advocates a multi-disciplinary / agency approach. The project reflected genuine multi-agency **collaboration** across PSB partners and a strong community led approach. The participatory budgeting project was overseen by a steering group consisting of local residents. The approach used community engagement to strengthen social capital so **involvement** was central at all stages. This was demonstrated by the World Café engagement event, the participatory budgeting event and the role of the community led steering group.

Performance Measures

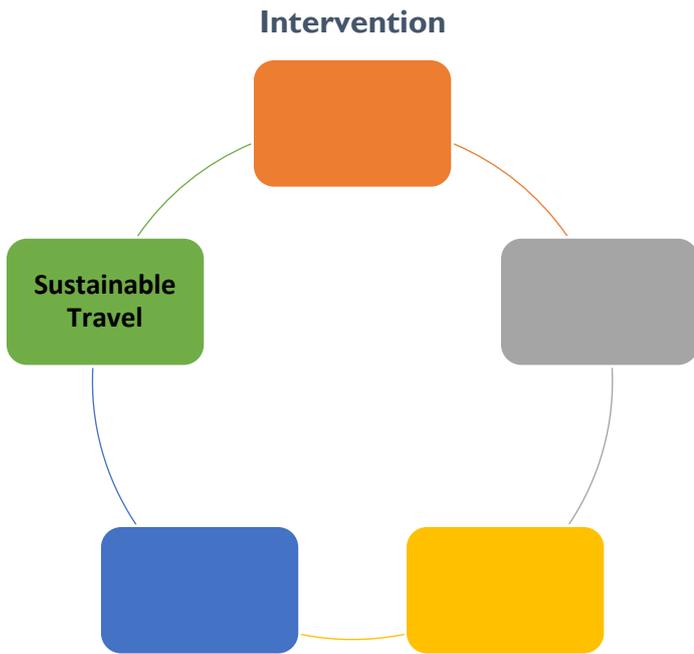
Perception indicators were used to measure performance:

Percentage of attendees who believed there were high levels of SOC and that they or their families had been affected	World Café attendees	88%
	Participatory Budgeting attendees	73%
Percentage of people attending who hadn't previously attended a formal public meeting	World Café attendees	70%
	Participatory Budgeting attendees	64%
Percentage of people who believe that their voice isn't heard	World Café attendees	80%
	Participatory Budgeting attendees	84%

Looking Ahead to the Future

The approach was developed as a pilot project in Ringland and Alway based on using community engagement to strengthen social capital is now being rolled-out in Newport. Projects are planned for Pill, in Newport Primary Schools and across Newport to address the impacts of Covid19. In Ringland and Alway the legacy of the project is being sustained through a multi-agency focus group including the Heddlu Gwent Police, Newport City Council, Newport City Homes and local schools.

ECO Stars Scheme



The ECO Stars Scheme encourages and helps operators of HGVs, buses, coaches, vans and taxis to run fleets in the most efficient and green way. The scheme provides recognition for best operational practices, and guidance for making improvements. The ultimate aim is to reduce fuel consumption which naturally leads to fewer vehicle emissions and has the added benefit of saving money.



Members are awarded an ECO Star rating when they first join, ranging from 1 Star to 5 Stars based on an assessment of their current operational and environmental performance. Each individual vehicle is rated and how the fleet is run as a whole.

Once the assessment is complete a bespoke “road map” outlining findings and containing tailor-made advice to help improve the efficiency of the operators’ fleet.

Newport is the only area in Wales to offer the scheme and 47 organisations across Newport have taken part with a view to improving air quality and carbon emissions across the city.



5 Ways of Working

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



Improving the efficiency of the commercial fleet on Newport roads has **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations by contributing to the improvement of air quality and the reduction of carbon emissions in the Newport area. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. Poor air quality is linked to cancer, bronchitis, asthma, dementia and many other diseases. Improving the efficiency of commercial fleet

will contribute to the improvement of air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. ECO stars is truly **integrated** and supports five of the well-being goals and does not adversely affect the other two, while also supporting three of the Well-being Plan objectives. In a **collaborative** way 47 organisations took part in the scheme within the Newport area, with 3 being PSB members. When developing the Newport Sustainable Travel Strategy (Air, Noise & Sustainability Action Plan) a consultation took place **involving** the public that evidenced a general consensus on the need to move away from fossil fuelled vehicles.

Performance Measures

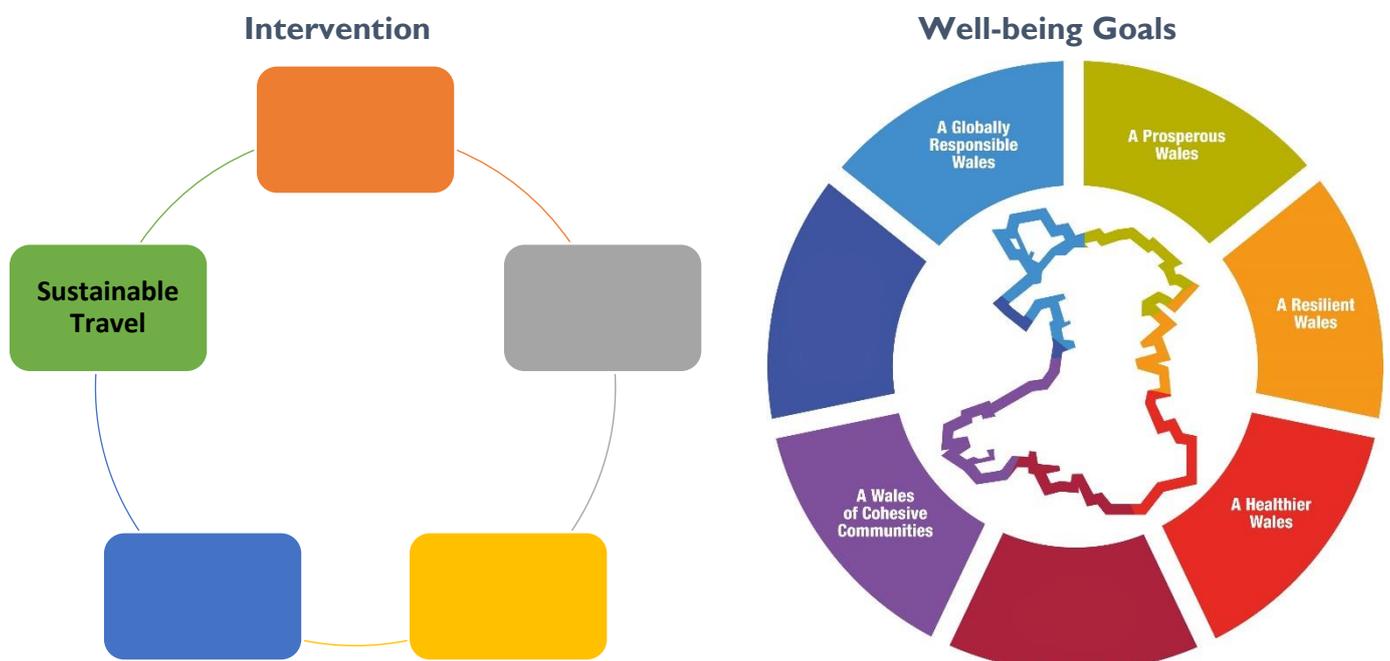
Performance Measure	Target	Actual
Organisations signed up	30	47

Three Public Services Board organisations have taken part in the scheme, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Newport City Council and Newport City Homes.

Looking Ahead to the Future

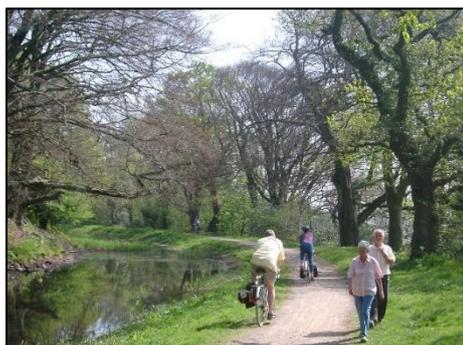
Fleet operators signed up to the scheme will be supported to implement their bespoke action plans to reducing carbon emissions and move to ultra-low emission vehicles. This will have a positive effect on air quality in the Newport area for the future.

Sustainable Travel Supplementary Planning Guidance



The Sustainable Travel Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has now been developed and published and supplements policies in the adopted Newport Local Development Plan. It is designed to be used by planning applicants, developers, sustainable transport providers and local planning authority planners. The benefits of sustainable travel, from environmental advantages to health and well-being benefits are well documented. This SPG promotes sustainable travel in new developments and provides additional detail and guidance on policies in the Local Development Plan. It will encourage place makers and developers to integrate sustainable travel as a foundation component of new development and its surrounding areas.

In a truly connected travel network, sustainable travel routes and options should not be limited by site boundaries. This guidance supports the local authority, developers and sustainable transport providers to work together to ensure safe and continuous sustainable travel networks exists across the City of Newport and beyond.

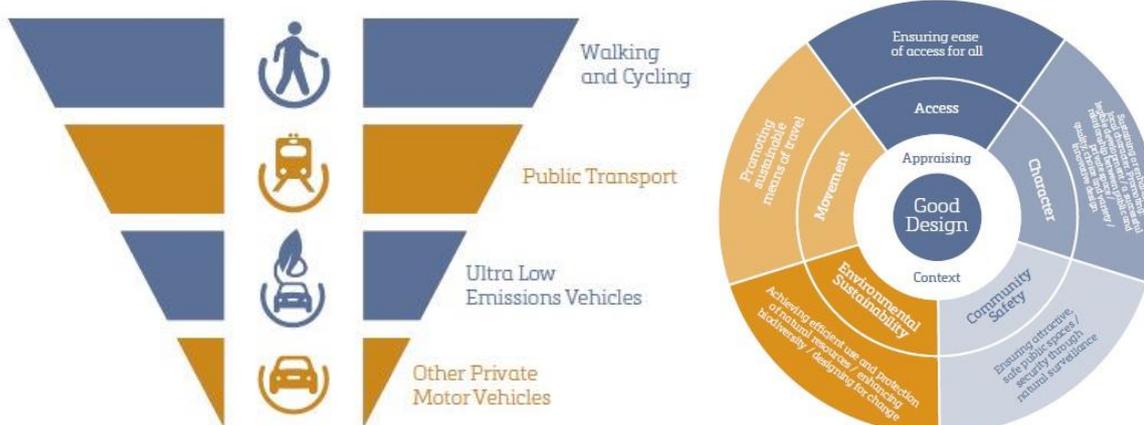


The guidance also sets out expected standards for cycle parking and provides guidance to developers on producing an effective travel plan. Travel plans will encourage new residents to reduce single occupancy private car journeys in favour of more sustainable forms of travel such as walking, cycling and public transport.



The location, size and nature of a new development can have a direct influence on the mode of travel that residents, employees and visitors will use to travel to and from the site. Without positive intervention, encouragement and the availability of logical sustainable travel options at an early stage, it is likely that the majority of people will rely heavily on the use of private motor vehicles to travel to and from the development. Moreover, it is recognised that individuals are more likely to change their travel habits when they are making a significant change to their lifestyle, such as starting a new job or moving home. Such lifestyle changes can therefore provide a prime opportunity to encourage people to change their travel habits.

Good design can provide the physical structures required to support sustainable travel. A network of safe and efficient cycle paths, pedestrian paths, bus stops, crossing points etc. are some of the foundational components necessary to support behaviour change in urban areas. Sustainable travel should be a material consideration from the onset of all development initiatives and not an afterthought. Sustainable travel can offer numerous benefits, not only to new residents, but also to the greater surrounding community in which the new development will be sited. Sustainable travel can be economically beneficial for an organisation or individuals and can also help relieve local parking and congestion issues, contribute to improved local air quality, foster healthier lifestyles and help support public transport within an area.



5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



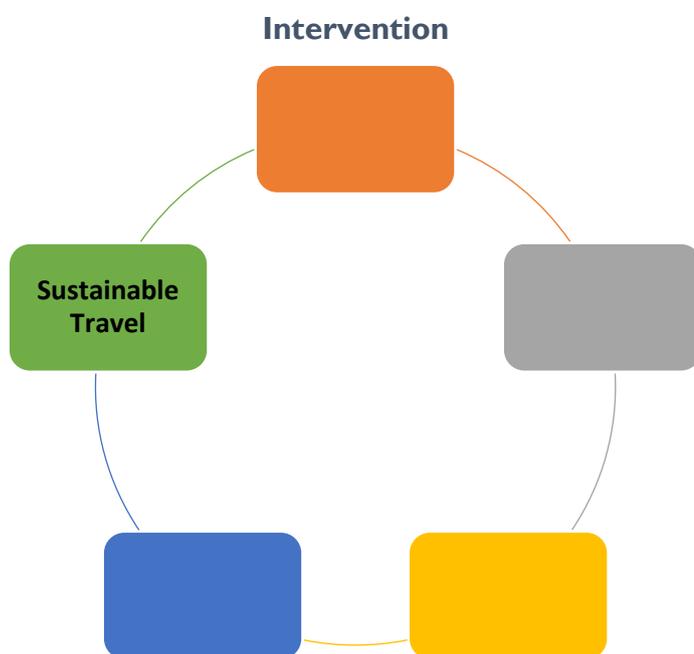
This SPG encourages the use of sustainable transport and discourages the use of private motor vehicles. In the **long term**, this will help to improve air quality by reducing the number of private motor vehicles on the road. It will also relieve congestion. This SPG will have a positive impact on climate change in the longer term. By supporting the sustainable modes of transport, single occupant car journeys are strongly discouraged. Consequently, this will help to prevent poor air quality in new developments, it will **prevent** congestion of the roads and it will help to

prevent the effects of global warming. This SPG take an **integrated** approach meeting many of the Well-being Goals. The guidance has been prepared in **collaboration** with ABUHB, Fire Service, NRW, Sustrans, Newport City Homes, Citizen's Advice as well other various Newport City Council departments. The draft guidance was subject to a 6-week public consultation which **involved** the public and the development & planning industry. The comments were considered and changes made to the final version.

Looking Ahead to the Future

With this SPG in place, developers and place makers will now and in the future have clear guidance on how they need to consider sustainable travel in new community design and how developments link with the wider community.

On Street Cycle Hire



An on street cycle hire feasibility study was undertaken in 2019. The study provides a framework of options for a cycle hire scheme for the city-wide area. The study sets out the strategic case for the implementation of the scheme, identifies suitable locations and determines the catchment population for differing scales of scheme.

The success of the cycle hire scheme in Cardiff operated by Next Bike, further supports the opportunity to deliver a similar scheme in Newport, that is of a profile and scale fitting of the city and that meets the needs of its residents, workers and visitors.



Since the completion of the feasibility study further detailed investigations have been undertaken for the cycle hire station locations, including groundworks, consultation with landowners and locations of charging points for e-bikes. Delivery mechanisms have also been investigated and could include working with Newport Live to facilitate the practical requirements of the scheme including bike repair and location management with the opportunities for social enterprise with links to the National Velodrome.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



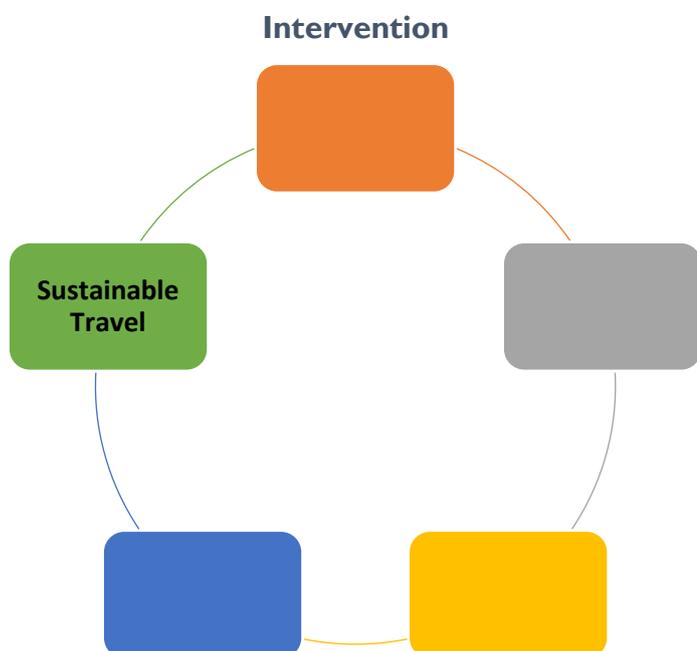
Improving active travel and reducing traffic congestion has **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations by contributing to the improvement of air quality and the reduction of carbon emissions in the Newport area. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. Poor air quality is linked to cancer, bronchitis, asthma, dementia and many other diseases. Reducing traffic and increasing active travel will contribute to the

improvement of air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. A cycle hire scheme takes an **integrated** approach aligning strongly with the six well-being goals. Arcadis Consulting and Newport City Council worked in **collaboration** to undertake the study. In addition, to inform the study, members of the public and employers across Newport were invited to be **involved** in an online cycle hire demand survey. This allowed the development of an understanding of the public's support for the introduction of a cycle hire scheme in Newport, the potential demand for its use and identification of preferred locations for cycle hire stations throughout the city.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Plans are now in place to implement the scheme once funding for the purchase of bikes, e-bikes, hire stations and charging points has been sourced.

Ultra Low Emission Buses and Bus Stop Improvements



In August 2019, Newport Transport introduced the first fully electric bus in regular service in Wales. This provided a showcase for the city of using zero emission technology. The vehicle performed well in the first 10 months of service, and has been used on each of the operator's bus routes except for those involving longer-distances. The vehicle has proved to easily achieve a maximum range requirement of 210 miles.

Fourteen further vehicles are on order funded by Department for Transport (DfT) Ultra Low Emission Bus scheme; however, their deployment has been delayed, due to the temporary restrictions on travel arising from the Covid-19 emergency. They are now likely to enter service in September following commissioning and testing of the full system.



In Newport, the buses will be supplied on a 'plug and play' basis. Zenobe Energy are providing and funding for the charging infrastructure, including on-site battery storage and is responsible for the performance and replacement when needed. The infrastructure is constructed with the future needs in mind, it will support 15 vehicles initially, however, contingency is designed in so the package can be scaled up as the fleet of battery-electric buses grows. Additionally, the modular system can be moved elsewhere should it become necessary to relocate the depot.

Newport Bus is the first operator in the UK to take up the 'plug and play' option for the full lifecycle of electric buses. Doing so removes the high initial cost of both infrastructure and vehicles and guarantees each bus are sufficiently charged at the start of each day.

Storage batteries within the depot support peak electricity demand and batteries can be removed from buses for that second life purpose, so they have a higher residual value.



5 Ways of Working



Reducing carbon emissions from public transport has **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. This will also contribute to the improvement of air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. Introducing ultra-low emissions buses takes an **integrated** approach to well-being and supports six of the well-being goals and does not adversely affect the other one. In

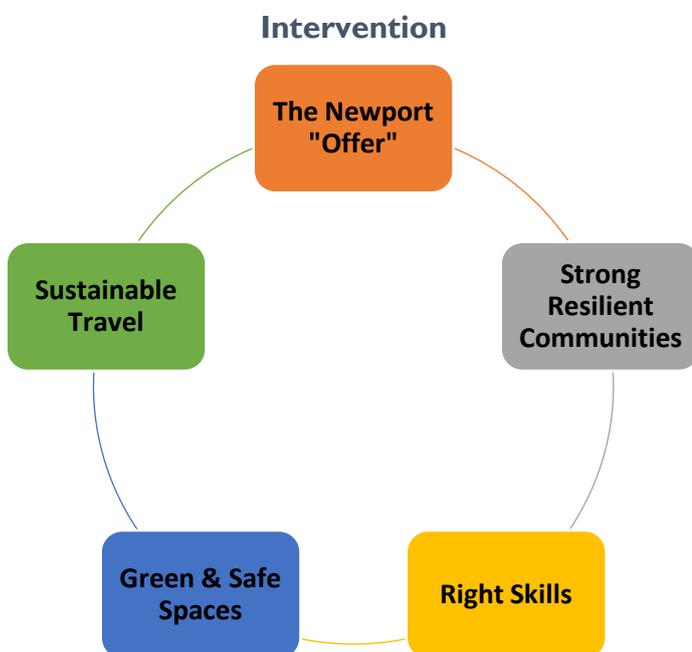
addition, it supports three of the Well-being Plan objectives. Newport Bus have worked in **collaboration** with Zenobe Energy.

Looking Ahead to the Future

The Cardiff Capital Region are preparing a regional bid for the provision of bus charging infrastructure, which includes consideration of bus charging infrastructure at Market Square and the Riverside to provide top up charging for regional and long distance services.

Also planned is to replace and upgrade bus stops across Newport. This will enhance the public transport network to Metro standards and include real time electronic information for passengers at bus stops. An order for 40 high quality bus stops has recently been placed and these are due to be installed by the end of 2020; however, timescales are subject to delay due to the furlough of manufacturing staff.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points



The five local authorities in Gwent have been awarded a share of £422,000 by the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to install a total of 65 fast charge points across up to 34 sites in the region.

To support development of this project in 2019 an electric vehicle charging point infrastructure study was completed on behalf of 5 Gwent Local Authorities, Gwent Police, South Wales Fire and Rescue, ABUHB

and Natural Resources Wales. Welsh Government Smart Living programme and Natural Resources Wales both contributed funding to support this work.

The study looked at specific sites across the region owned by PSB partners which met the OLEV criteria for funding to support rollout of electric charge points – essentially looking at what needs to go where.

In June, the Gwent local authorities made a joint application for funding to OLEV for funding to help address barriers to residential electric vehicle take-up caused by having no dedicated off-street parking i.e. no drive way or garage where an EV could be charged.



The bid was successful with an award of (up to) £422,385 from the On-street Residential Charge-point Fund. Match funding is being provided by the 5 Local Authority partners.

The installation is being undertaken by a Welsh company called Silverstone Green Energy. This company will also operate, manage and maintain the charging units until 2025 with the option to extend this to 2028.

20 dual fast chargers (40 sockets) and 2 rapid chargers are planned to be installed across Newport. Infrastructure has been installed for charging points at Faulkner Road, Hill Street, Stow Hill, Maindee, Mill Parade, Fourteen Locks. Full installation and commissioning was due in March 2020 but has been delayed due to the pandemic.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



Enabling the public to move to using ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEVs) has **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. It will also contribute to the improvement of air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. Introducing an electric charging infrastructure across the city supports the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 in an **integrated**

way by supporting six of the well-being goals, and does not adversely affect the other one. In addition, it supports three of the Well-being Plan objectives. This is a truly **collaborative** project with partners from the five local authorities of Gwent, Heddlu Gwent Police, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, ABUHB, Natural Resources Wales and Welsh Government being **involved** in the project. At the feasibility stage of the project residents were asked for their views on whether they would consider changing to an electric vehicle if more charging points were available within the area. The focus of the **involvement** process was primarily for residents who have or are considering an electric car but who cannot park or charge off-street near their property.

Performance Measures

Currently, there are 9 rapid chargers and 20 fast/slow sockets available for public use in the city. The project increases this to 60 fast/slow charge sockets (a 200% increase) and 11 rapid chargers available for public and council use. Further sites are being investigated for delivery before the end of the financial year.

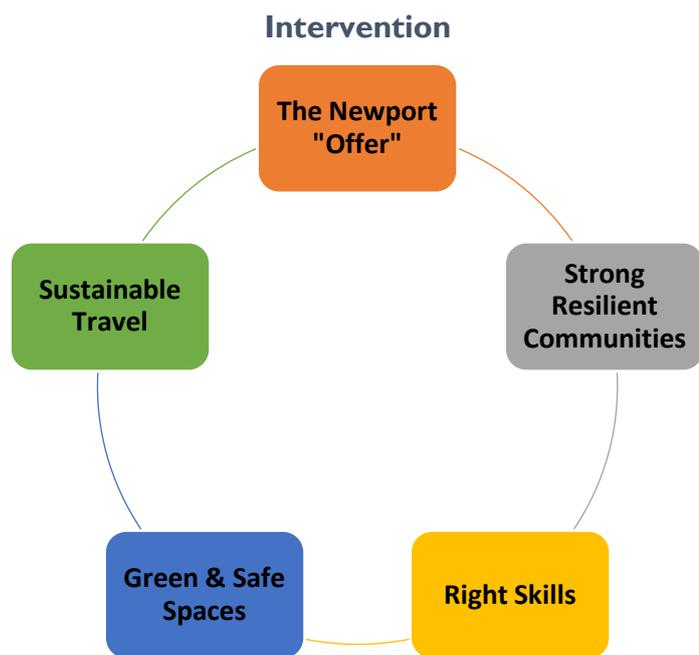
Looking Ahead to the Future

It is anticipated, that the installations will be completed this Autumn.

In addition, the Cardiff Capital Region electric charging funding bid is considering the provision of charging points at the Queensway Taxi Rank.

We will also be contributing towards the development of a regional approach for electric vehicle charge point infrastructure, which could be used to inform the development of a regional charging point delivery plan.

Bee Friendly City



In July 2019 the former council Leader of the councillor Deborah Wilcox put forward a cross party motion to council to support an initiative from the Friends of the Earth (FoE) to make Newport into a Bee friendly city. The aim of the motion was to protect and enhance its pollinator habitats through management of green spaces. The motion included the objectives to protect and enhance, increase awareness and increase understanding of the importance of pollinators.

In moving the motion, the Council was committed to helping the UK's pollination by ensuring that the needs of pollinators were considered within the delivery of their work and duties.

A Bee Friendly Policy based on the FoE and Plantlife Helping Pollinators Locally document is currently being developed.

Sites across Newport that support the Bee Friendly approach are:

- **Local Nature Reserves** –there are two reserves in Newport, one at St. Julians and one at Allt-Yr-Yn both with meadows that are managed for the benefit of pollinators. Annual hay cuts take place and encroaching bracken and bramble is managed.
- **Wentwood Meadow** – Annual hay cut and encroaching bracken and bramble is managed by hand by volunteers.

- **New Pollinator Sites** – Newport City Council have worked with the Living Levels, Bumblee Conservation Trust and Buglife to identify two new ‘pollinator sites’ in excess of 25 acres combined. One at Percoed Lane and one at the Newport Tip. Newport City Council are committing to the long-term management of these sites for the benefit of pollinators. With a view to extending both sites in the coming year.
- **St. Woolos Cemetery** – We have also identified two leave to grow areas within the cemetery where the grass has been left to grow long. The grass will be cut and collected once a year at the end of each summer. The way selected areas of the cemetery is managed will be specifically for the benefit of pollinators.
- **Belle Vue Park** – Bedding areas are planted with Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) ‘perfect for pollinators’ plants. There is a large expanse of grass that is an allocated leave to grow area, which is only cut and collected once a year at the end of the summer. Belle Vue Park in itself achieved official Bee Friendly status this year.
- **Mon-Brec Canal** – Resurfacing of the towpath has taken place this year and the verges are now left to grow long instead of being regularly mowed.
- **Community Adopted Pollinator Sites** – Communities are encouraged to identify potential pollinator sites managed by volunteers and supported by Newport City Council. Examples of sites across the city are:
 - **Great Oaks** – Resident volunteers (new site in 2019).
 - **Rogerstone Welfare Grounds** – Wild about Rogerstone Group (new site in 2019).
 - **St Woolos Cemetery** – Resident volunteers (new site 2019).
 - **Allt-Yr-Yn Nature Reserve** – Canal and Countryside Volunteers.
 - **Monkey Island** – identified as potential site.
- **Roadside Verges** – Newport City Council are committed to adopting the practises from the Plantlife Good Verge Guide where possible using a phased approach. Already designated Pollinator sites are:
 - Bridge Street Roundabout
 - Sorrel Drive/Allt-Yr-Yn Roundabout
 - Raised beds at the bottom of Brynglas Hill
 - Raised beds at the bottom of Waterloo Road
 - Riverside walk/Castle bingo Car park
 - Parc Seymour entrance Penhow
 - Approach to Harlequin Roundabout
 - New site designated in Machen along the A468

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement

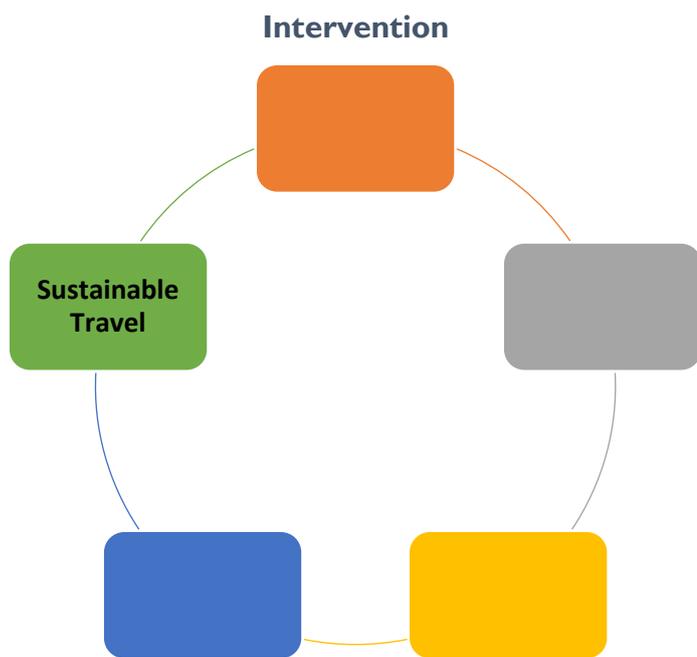


Enhancing green space for people and nature helps **prevent** and reduce physical and mental health problems and increase a good sense of wellbeing, increases biodiversity and supports wildlife, helps to tackle the nature emergency. In addition, it helps Newport become more resilient to climate change which is predicted to have a significant negative **long-term** impact on future generations. The Bee Friendly city project is **integrated** and supports a number of the well-being goals. Many different partners have **collaborated** and **involved** local

communities by encouraging them to identify sites.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Maintenance of all current pollinator sites will continue. In the coming year sites at Pencoed Lane and Newport Tip will be extended and Monkey Island will be investigated further.



As a Public Services Board, we have undertaken to “become champions of sustainable travel, leading by example and reducing the public sector’s contribution to air pollution”. To realise this undertaking the PSB along with the other four PSBs in Gwent are developing a Gwent Sustainable Travel Charter, which will support and encourage staff to reduce travel when possible and also to use healthy modes of transport for commuting and business miles.



The travel charter sets out a number of commitments for organisations to sign up to. Organisations will also be pledging to reduce staff commuting journeys, increase staff public transport journeys, increase the proportion of staff working remotely and increase the proportion of ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEVs).



The charter was due to be launched at the end of June 2020 but has been delayed due to the emergency response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst this is disappointing, the pandemic has bought a positive impact on reducing travel, improving air quality and reducing carbon emissions, which is an opportunity for the future.

5 Ways of Working



Reducing commuting journeys and increasing active travel will have **long-term** benefits for the health and well-being of both current and future generations by contributing to the improvement of air quality and the reduction of carbon emissions in the Newport area. In addition, this will contribute towards the mitigation of climate change, which is predicted to have a significant negative impact on future generations. Poor air quality is linked to cancer, bronchitis, asthma, dementia and many other diseases. Reducing staff commuting journeys will contribute to the improvement of

air quality and **prevent** ill health and deaths. The travel charter is **integrated** across the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 supporting five of the well-being goals, and not adversely affecting

the other two. In addition, it supports three of the Well-being Plan objectives. Over 30 public and third sector organisations across Gwent have worked together in a **collaborative** way to develop the charter and 4,373 members of staff across Gwent were **involved** in taking part in the baseline survey. Staff were asked how they travel, to and from work and travel during the working day.

Performance Measures

Now the baselining exercise has been completed targets will be set for the next three years to:

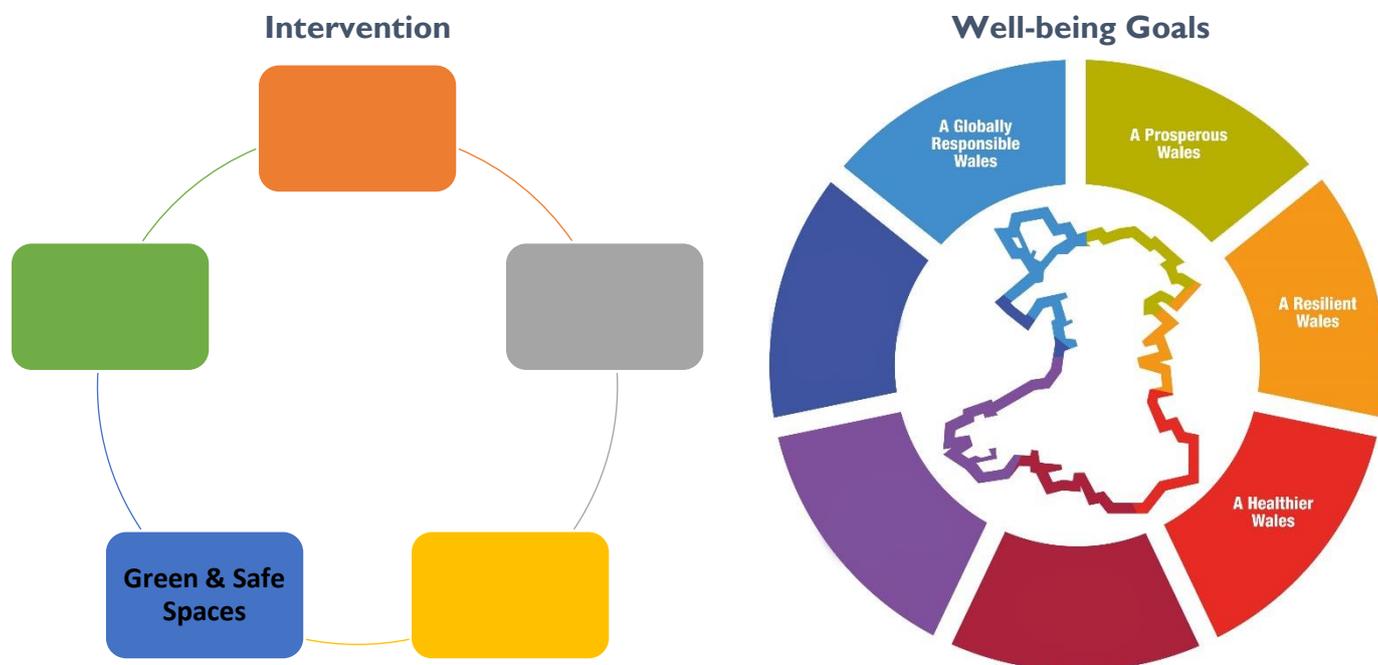
- Reduce the proportion of journeys commuting to and from work made by car
- Increase the proportion of journeys to and from work made by public transport
- Increase the proportion of staff who work from home one or more days per week
- Increase the proportion of vehicles used during the day which are ultra-low emission

Looking Ahead to the Future

Plans are underway to finalise the Gwent Sustainable Travel Charter for a launch in October as part of Global Climate Change Week. Over the next three years, organisations will work together on implementing the pledges in the charter. There will also be an opportunity to develop similar charters for the third sector and the higher / further education sector.

Carbon literacy training will also be available to support this work. The training will enable organisations and individuals to understand the links between human activity and climate change and take action to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Linking Our Landscapes – Landscape Profiles - South East Wales Area Statement



Landscape profiles are a mechanism to ensure that national evidence and grassroots technical knowledge together inform our understanding of ecosystem resilience in South East Wales. They are also a mechanism to influence policy and inform place-based planning and delivery through the Area Statement. It is our ambition that landscape profiles will be fully integrated into how we work across South East Wales in the future.

The approach drew on the technical and spatial expertise of existing partnerships in the South East including; the Gwent Green Grid Partnership, the Resilient Greater Gwent Partnership (through the State of Nature and Nature Recovery Action Plan for Gwent), the Living Levels Partnership, the South East Wales Resilient Uplands Partnership and Wye Valley AONB Partnership.



Partners worked together to produce a set of landscape profiles, which answered the following set of questions:

- What is special or significant about this landscape?
- Where do we want to build resilience within the landscape and why?

The following [Landscape profiles](#) were produced by partners:

- The Eastern Valleys
- Central Monmouthshire
- Wye Valley and Wentwood
- The Gwent Levels
- Newport
- Brecon Beacons (partial)

The Linking Our Landscapes theme identifies local opportunities for our protected sites, our natural and built environments which contribute towards the resilience of wider priority habitat networks in the region. These opportunities for improving ecosystem resilience should support ecological connectivity between sites, across boundaries and at a landscape scale.

[5 Ways of Working](#)

Long Term

Prevention

Integration



Collaboration

Involvement



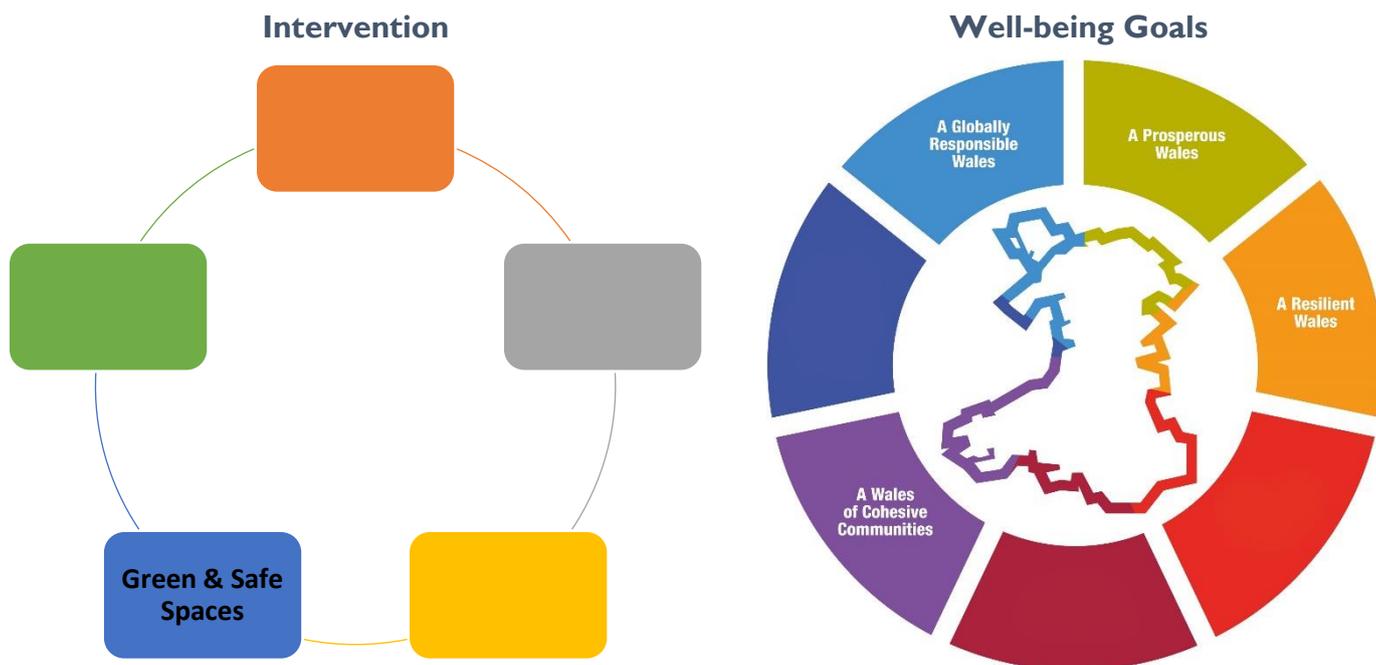
This project is **integrated** across the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 by meeting a number of the well-being goals. Many partners have been **involved** and **collaborated** on the development of the South East Area Statement. It is an illustration of the work partners have accomplished in Gwent over the past two years to strengthen the ways we work together differently within our own organisations and as partners. The Landscape Profiles provide a common evidence base, which will facilitate **preventative** interventions over the **longer term** against the three headings stated below.

[Looking Ahead to the Future](#)

The Linking Our Landscapes project has identified a [list of actions](#) for the future which fall under the three headings:

- Improving resilience of our ecosystems across Gwent.
- Increasing understanding of the need to safeguard and enhance core habitat networks and support ecological connectivity on and between our ‘best sites’ across Gwent.
- Increasing capacity of organisations and individuals, ensuring that they have the tools, skills and guidance necessary to safeguard and enhance our core habitat networks across Gwent.

Lived Experience Climate Change Engagement Project



The Lived Experience Climate Change Engagement Project sought to:

- engage with Gwent communities on climate adaptation;
- learn about the lived experience of climate change in Gwent’s communities to inform well-being planning; and
- capture evidence to stimulate community level and PSB climate adaptation planning.

The project is unique in Wales as climate adaptation is a new and developing area of work for many of the agencies and communities involved. The project was deliberately focused on the ‘lived experience’ of climate change to localise climate impacts and explore methods of capturing and communicating risk and adaptive action to both communities and decision makers.

A range of innovative methods were used to develop discussions with the community on this complex issue. This included:

- focusing on past and present experiences and future priorities; risk assessment exercises; community of enquiry sessions to identify priorities; semi-structured interviews;
- world café work to explore adaptation response;
- plenary discussions on adaptation planning.

This project produced nine case studies providing place-based and regional recommendations for improving local climate resilience. The areas involved were:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goldcliff Community Council • Gwent’s Farming Community • Blaenau Gwent +50 Forum • Blaenau Gwent Children’s Grand Council • Blaenavon Town Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blaenavon World Heritage Site • Cwmcarn Forest • Transition Monmouth #1 • Transition Monmouth #2 |
|---|---|



The study has deepened our understanding around the risks to our communities from the changing climate as well as highlighting some of the opportunities that nature-based solutions can provide when looking to increase community resilience.

5 Ways of Working

Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement



Evidence suggests that if we fail to respond to the **long-term** impacts of climate change, we will be putting the well-being of current and future generations at risk. The findings from this study give us insight in to how we can increase community resilience to climate change. Mitigating and adapting to climate change **integrates** with a number of the well-being goals and does not adversely affect the others. Communities across Gwent were **involved** in informing this study and partners as part of Climate Ready Gwent are working **collaboratively** to ensure learning from the project is used to increase community resilience.

Looking Ahead to the Future

Climate Ready Gwent will work regionally and locally to ensure that climate risks are addressed by working together collectively to identify plans, strategies and approaches to service delivery that need to change in order to ensure the risk to future generations is minimised.

CHAPTER 4: SELF REFLECTION

Partnership Evaluation

Since 2013 we as the former Local Service Board and now Public Services Board have undertaken exercises every two years to self-evaluate our own effectiveness and those of the wider partnership in delivering both the former Single Integrated Plan and the existing Well-being Plan.

During 2019, we proposed a new self-evaluation following completion of the first year of delivery of the Well-being Plan. To support this, a Healthy Boards Workshop was held in March 2019 facilitated by Academi Wales, which looked at the unique challenges for PSBs; what a healthy partnership board does; the reality for most PSBs; and areas to focus on for possible improvement.

In response, in June 2019 we agreed to base the evaluation on this workshop focussing on the following areas of improvement:

- **Mandate** – How well does the PSB hold a collective commitment to a clear shared purpose that delivers a shared vision, values and strategy?
- **Governance** – How well does the PSB ensure it has the right mix of skills and experience with strong processes that enables it to monitor performance and manage risk and hold organisations and individuals to account?
- **Behaviours** – How well does the PSB deal with issues openly, with transparency and candour; an unwavering citizen focus and an uncompromising stance about professional standards?
- **Connections** – How well does the PSB listen to and engage powerfully with communities, partners and stakeholders?
- **Renewal** – How well does the PSB anticipate challenges and opportunities, learning from and responding to successes and failures with energy and vigour?

A questionnaire rating us against a range of criteria in the areas above and a variety of contra-indicators that could have a negative effect on our effectiveness and health was used as the basis for the evaluation.

To allow us to address the sustainable development principle (five ways of working) a number of additional questions were added with answers ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree in each case.

Ten of our members completed and submitted responses, with consensus found that we were performing well against most of the indicators.

Board Development Action Plan

The Wales Audit Office (recently renamed Audit Wales) undertook a review of PSBs on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales, with the report making recommendations on areas for improvement.

Overall, it concluded that PSBs are unlikely to realise their potential unless they are given freedom to work more flexibly, and think and act differently.

Taken together, our own self-evaluation exercise and the WAO review suggested areas for our development going forward, with an action plan for development agreed in December 2019.

The action plan being led by Amelia John, Welsh Government addresses the recommendations of both the WAO report and areas of the PSB self-evaluation where there was less agreement among members that the Board is performing well. These are aimed at all levels of partnership including the PSB; its sub-groups; and identified members, with the Strategy & Performance Board monitoring implementation of the action plan during 2020-21.

Review of Well-being Plan

One of the recommendations outlined in the development action plan involved the Strategy and Performance Board reviewing the Well-being Plan on an annual basis and making proposals of any changes to the PSB to ensure we adapt to changing circumstances. This review will consider:

- a) Whether the values set out in the Well-being Plan are still relevant?
- b) Adopting an overall vision for the Well-being Plan.
- c) Whether the interventions are still relevant?
- d) Whether the steps in each of the interventions are still relevant?

The first review was scheduled to take place in April 2020, however the Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on this review with members of the PSB shifting their focus to their organisations response to this public health crisis. Therefore, this has been delayed and will be completed during 2020-21 once the county begins to return to normality. The pandemic has not only effected the timescales of this review but will also have an effect on the focus of the well-being plan in response to the impact this virus has had on community well-being.

Further Self-Evaluation

As part of our continual process of self-evaluation, we had planned to identify an area or project and perform a deep dive to establish lessons learned, investigate how we used the five ways of working and identify recommendations for future projects.

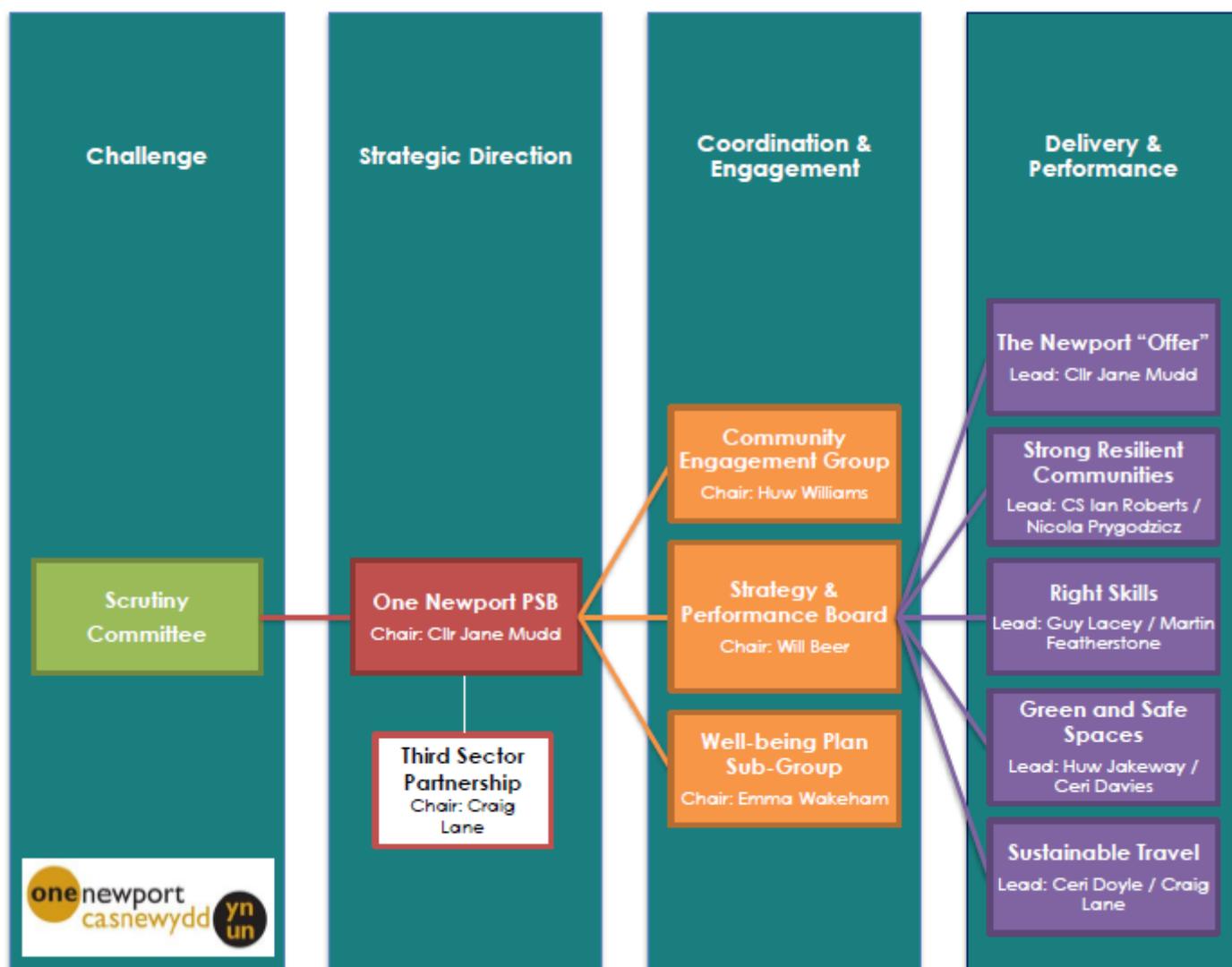
Due to a number of factors including the impact of Covid-19, this task will take place during 2020-21.

Delivery & Performance Framework

Each year a [Delivery and Performance Framework](#) is developed setting out how we manage delivery and performance. As part of the framework and to support, the function of the PSB and the delivery of the Plan a partnership structure was established which is detailed below. The roles and responsibilities of the groups are set out in the framework.

Partnership Delivery Structure

This structure shows the governance arrangements for partnership delivery in 2019-20.



Measuring Progress

During the second year of implementation, we continue to identify appropriate performance measures so real progress and outcomes can be ascertained. A snapshot of these measures have been included in Chapter 3 but don't always show the full picture of the work being undertaken.

Moving forward we will look to refine the measures used to demonstrate progress to enable us to better understand how the interventions put in place are impacting on people's well-being.

Thriving Places Wales Index

In last year's Annual Report we agreed to measure the well-being of Newport as a whole by reviewing the [Thriving Places Wales](#) Index on an annual basis.

It uses a broad range of measures that reflect the increasing understanding that well-being is a multi-dimensional concept, determined by many diverse factors. These factors tend to be causally connected to each other to create a 'web' of conditions that impact on people's well-being.

Thriving Places Wales is a practical tool for implementing local policy and action that delivers on well-being. It provides a consistent and comparable way of agreeing, measuring and tracking progress towards shared goals, a 'common currency' across and between sectors and geographies.

The index is published on an annual basis since April 2018 just before the publication of the Well-being Plan. Two years on, it is still too early to see long-term impact of the Well-being Plan, however the index can highlight where things are improving and areas for development. The index for Newport is set out around three dimensions. The first dimension local conditions is set out in the table below:

LOCAL CONDITIONS	2018	2019	2020
	4.37	4.41	4.42
Place & Environment	3.84	3.55	3.47
Transport	5.12	4.91	4.63
Safety	2.42	2.31	2.26
Housing	3.86	3.28	4.15
Local Environment	3.95	3.69	2.82
Mental & Physical Health	5.10	4.78	4.74
Healthy & risky behaviours	6.16	6.12	5.77
Overall health status	4.85	3.67	4.39
Mortality & life expectancy	4.38	4.34	4.18
Mental health	5.00	5.00	4.62
Education & Learning	4.81	5.19	4.76
Adult	3.91	4.52	4.76
Children	5.71	5.85	4.76
Work & Local Economy	4.04	4.45	4.82
Unemployment	4.23	4.28	4.33
Good jobs	2.70	6.54	6.89
Deprivation	5.52	2.72	3.44
Local business	3.71	4.26	4.61
People & Community	4.09	4.07	4.30
Participation	3.83	3.86	4.57
Culture	4.17	4.17	4.17
Social isolation	4.58	4.47	4.47
Community cohesion	3.78	3.78	4.00

The local conditions dimension demonstrates an overall slight improvement from 4.37 in 2018 to 4.42 in 2020. This dimension is split in to five domains and the strongest improvements have been seen for the work & local economy domain, which includes, sub domains of unemployment, good jobs, deprivation and local business. However, the place & environment domain, which includes, sub domains of transport, safety, housing and local environment is an area of concern.

The second dimension sustainability is shown in the table below:

SUSTAINABILITY	2018	2019	2020
	4.50	4.89	5.48
CO2 Emissions	3.42	4.91	
Ecological footprint / Green Infrastructure	5.93	5.93	5.86
Household recycling / Waste	3.86	5.33	4.31
Renewable energy production / Energy use	4.80	3.39	6.07

The sustainability dimension indicates an overall improvement from 4.50 in 2018 to 5.48 in 2020 but this could be due to changes in the indicators used.

The third dimension equality is shown in the table below:

EQUALITY	2018	2019	2020
	4.68	4.43	5.10
Health	4.59	4.59	5.47
Income	5.36	5.38	4.67
Well-being	4.09	4.26	
Employment			5.59

The equality dimension shows an overall improvement from 4.68 in 2018 to 5.10 in 2020 but this may be due to the change of indicators that are being used.

A full list of 2020 indicators can be found [here](#).

National Indicators

The Act required Welsh Ministers to set national indicators to assess progress towards achieving the well-being goals. From September 2015 to January 2016 Welsh Government undertook a [widespread public consultation](#) to identify what small set of indicators should be developed to best measure progress against the well-being goals. These [national indicators](#) were published in March 2016 and laid before the National Assembly for Wales.

There are 46 national indicators, which are designed to represent the outcomes for Wales, and its people that will help demonstrate progress towards the 7 well-being goals. They are not intended to be performance indicators for an individual organisation.

The latest data and summaries of each indicators can be found on the [Welsh Government website](#).

These indicators continue to support our wider performance monitoring to assess the wider well-being of Wales and the well-being of our local community.

Long Term Risk Management

We are also developing a way of identifying long-term future risks along with the other four PSBs in Gwent. This will enable us as a PSB and other partners across Gwent to assess and monitor long-term risks (up to 25 years) and opportunities to our communities. Long-term risk can be hard to define and difficult to plan for and manage but the benefits of doing so are clear.

The drivers within the process are emerging issues, trends and developments that are on the periphery of current planning and that might change markets, services attitudes and demand.

A future risk chart, register and dashboard have been designed which focus on anticipating the emergence of future risks through identifying possible future risk factors and tracking how they develop. This builds deeper systematic understanding across the partnership and allows partners to prepare a collective and coordinated response.

Accountability

In order to assure democratic accountability there is a requirement for a designated local government scrutiny committee of the relevant local authority to scrutinise the work of the public services board.

In Newport, the scrutiny committee responsible for scrutinising the work of the PSB is Scrutiny Performance Committee – Partnerships chaired by Councillor James Clarke. There are nine members of the committee and to ensure consistency, the terms of reference of the Scrutiny Committee mirror those agreed by the PSB.

Due to unforeseen circumstances during 2019-20, the Committee were unable to scrutinise the mid-year update during January 2020 as originally planned.

The second Annual Report of the Well-being Plan will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee following its publication to allow them to fully scrutinise the work of the PSB.

To support the scrutiny process the [Office of the Future Generations Commissioner](#) published the [Future Generations Framework for Scrutiny](#). This framework supports decision-making and scrutiny and is a series of prompts that could help anyone who is keen to ask questions about how a decision has been made. As we continue to work with the scrutiny committee we will use the framework as a toolkit for appropriate challenge and continuous improvement.

More Information

A number of supporting documents have been developed as follows:

[Community Well-being Profile \(Local Well-being Assessment\)](#)

[Newport's Well-being Plan 2018-23 \(English version\)](#)

[Newport's Well-being Plan 2018-23 \(Welsh version\)](#)

Well-being Plan Animation Video – [English](#) / [Welsh](#)

[Choosing Emerging Priorities](#)

[Response Analysis \(RA1\) – Understanding Outcomes](#)

[Response Analysis \(RA2\) – Linking Interventions to Outcomes](#)

[Well-being Plan \(Easy read summary\)](#) – draft

[Well-being Plan Annual Report 2018-19](#)

For further information about the One Newport PSB, the Local Well-being Plan or partnership arrangements in the city please visit our website at <http://onewportlsb.newport.gov.uk>.

Contact Details

One Newport Policy, Partnership and Involvement Team

Newport City Council

Civic Centre

Newport NP20 4UR

Telephone: (01633) 656656

Email: one.newport@newport.gov.uk

Twitter: [@OneNewport](https://twitter.com/OneNewport)

Instagram: [onewportpsb](https://www.instagram.com/onewportpsb)

Minutes

Newport Public Services Board (PSB) Strategy & Performance Board

Date: Wednesday 12th August 2020
Venue: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Time: 2pm

Present: Will Beer (Consultant in Public Health, Public Health Wales), Chair; Bev Owen (Chief Executive, Newport City Council); Superintendent Mike Richards (Gwent Police); Ceri Doyle (Chief Executive, Newport City Homes); Stephen Tiley (Chief Executive, GAVO); David Letellier (Operations Manager for South East Wales, Natural Resources Wales); Craig Lane (Citizens Advice); and Steve Saunders (South Wales Fire & Rescue Service).

Also in Attendance: Tracy McKim (Policy, Partnership & Involvement Manager, Newport City Council); Emma Wakeham (Senior Policy & Partnership Officer, Newport City Council); Nicola Dance (Senior Policy & Partnership Officer, Newport City Council); and Wayne Tucker (Partnership Officer, Newport City Council).

Apologies: Eric Bellew (Group Manager, South Wales Fire & Rescue Service); C/Supt Ian Roberts (Gwent Police); Guy Lacey (Coleg Gwent); and Nicola Prygodzic (Aneurin Bevan University Health Board).

No	Item	Action / Decision
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Will Beer welcomed everyone to the meeting with introductions given.</p> <p>The group gave their congratulations to Bev Owen for being appointed as Chief Executive of Newport City Council.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting (26th February 2020) & Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record with the following matters arising discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recent Strong Resilient Communities (SRC) Board was cancelled due to Covid-19 so they were unable to discuss the potential of using the Improvement Cymru approach within the Intervention. The co-lead for the Newport Offer will be picked up at the next PSB. The Strategic Housing Forum has a number of sub-groups including the Rough Sleepers Group within its structure. There were 47 organisations who have taken advantage of the Eco Stars Scheme. The funding for this project ended in March, with future funding being investigated. The integration workshop was put on hold due to Covid-19. Work to review the interventions within the Well-being Plan needs to continue taking into account the impact of Covid-19. 	

No	Item	Action / Decision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living Wage was added for discussion at a future PSB meeting. We are looking at the implications for employers as there would be some extra requirements beyond paying the living wage to directly employed staff. <p>It was agreed</p> <p>Discuss the possible use of the Improvement Cymru approach within the intervention.</p> <p>Follow up on obtaining the structure of the Strategic Housing Forum and its sub-groups.</p> <p>Link up contacts from across the PSB organisations who took part in the Eco Stars Scheme.</p> <p>Share the review template used by Sustainable Travel with the leads of the other Interventions.</p>	<p>SRC Board</p> <p>NCC – WT</p> <p>NCC – EW</p> <p>NCC - EW</p>
3.	<p>Well-being Plan Annual Report 2019-20</p> <p>Tracy Mckim thanked everyone for their hard work in developing the Annual Report, with notable appreciation for Wayne Tucker for setting up the template and bringing it all together.</p> <p>Comments made included identifying typos and that the way the Interventions and Goals were highlighted needed to be looked at for clarity.</p> <p>The foreword by the Chair and Vice Chair needed to include reference to the future not just on what was accomplished during 2019-20. The following suggestions for the foreword were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future focus Ambitions for the future Impact of Covid-19 going forward CJCs Any challenges Strategic Partnership Review Future Generations Commissioner Report SEWTC (Burns Commission) Horizon Scanning <p>It was agreed</p> <p>Provide any comments / feedback to Wayne Tucker before the end of the month.</p> <p>Update the report in preparation for it being presented to the PSB.</p> <p>Set up the report in Microsoft Sway.</p> <p>Make arrangements for translation.</p>	<p>Board members</p> <p>NCC – WT / EW</p> <p>NCC - WT</p> <p>NCC – WT / EW</p>
4.	<p>Letter from the Minister for Local Government and Housing: PSB and Covid-19 Recovery</p> <p>Each member explained how Covid-19 has impacted on their organisations and how they are recovering. The general themes raised included:</p>	

No	Item	Action / Decision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been a really challenging time; • Staff have continued to work effectively even when working from home; • The impact of not having face to face contact with services users' needs to be looked at so they are not left behind; • There has been a positive impact from volunteering; and • The effect of digital exclusion on communities needs acknowledging. <p>The work of the Recovery Coordination Group (RCG) in recovery planning was highlighted; and the Council's Community Impact Assessment. To ensure links with the PSB are established and reduce duplication relevant information from the RCG will be provided to the PSB as required.</p> <p>In the meantime, the Intervention Leads will continue to review their interventions, and the wellbeing objectives in light of Covid-19 taking into account of the Future Generations Commissioner's Report and Journey Checkers.</p> <p>It was agreed</p> <p>Review their section of the well-being plan and suggest any changes that could be made.</p> <p>Share any information that would support leads with reviewing their intervention e.g. links to Commissioners Report, Journey Checkers, etc.</p> <p>The next meeting of the S&P board will consider the amendments and any cross cutting themes.</p>	<p>Intervention Leads</p> <p>NCC – PPI Team</p> <p>Board members</p>
5.	<p>Shared Purpose: Shared Future (SPSF) 3 Guidance - Review</p> <p>The guidance is being reviewed by Welsh Government, with any feedback on this appreciated from the group. Some of the points raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It needs to be more succinct, with more direct support from the Future Generations Commissioner's Office. • It must not risk forgetting about the outcomes of the people we should be supporting. • The Community Safety Partnership and role of Registered Social Landlords needs to be included. <p>It was agreed</p> <p>Send any further comments on the guidance to Emma Wakeham within the next few weeks.</p>	<p>Board members</p>
6.	<p>Communications</p> <p>The group were reminded that if they have any good news or information they would like to promote (either related to the Well-being Plan or for individual organisations) to let Wayne Tucker know. This can then be circulated via the One Newport Bulletin, Email, Social Media, Website, etc.</p> <p>We also need to better update the partnership and public on specific projects as they are being developed and not just at the end of the project.</p>	

No	Item	Action / Decision
	<p>It was agreed</p> <p>Send any relevant information for communication to Wayne Tucker for circulation via the One Newport communication channels.</p>	Board members
7.	<p>PSB Work Programme</p> <p>The work programme for the PSB was discussed, with it noted that an item should be added to the PSB around housing / homelessness. This includes what partners have done since the start of lockdown and how the PSB can help to widen partner involvement.</p> <p>It was agreed</p> <p>Add a Housing / Homelessness item to the next PSB agenda.</p>	NCC – ND
8.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None.</p>	
9.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 25th November 2020, 2pm @ TBC</p> <p>Items for the agenda to Wayne Tucker.</p>	Board members

Public Services Board

08 September 2020

Review of the Sustainable Travel Intervention

Purpose

This paper sets out the proposed changes to the Sustainable Travel Intervention of the Well-being Plan.

Background

In June 2019, the PSB agreed to undertake a new evaluation exercise continuing the programme of structured self-evaluation every two years.

In December 2019, the PSB agreed an action plan to address areas of development.

Within the action plan, the board agreed to:

- Review the Well-being Plan on an annual basis and make proposals of any changes to the PSB to ensure we can adapt to changing circumstances.

In addition, in June 2020, Welsh Government wrote to PSBs regarding their role in the recovery from Covid-19 and suggested that, in the light of the pandemic, they reflect on whether the priorities in local well-being plans still have the right focus.

With this in mind the PSB Sustainable Travel Board along with other partners, reviewed the Sustainable Travel Intervention in a workshop in February and followed up with a meeting in July to consider Covid-19. A [workshop report](#) sets out the process undertaken to decide on the proposed changes. The proposed changes are set out in Annex A of this report.

Recommendations

Board members are asked to review and agree the changes to the Sustainable Travel Intervention.

Timetable

Task	By Whom	Date
Workshop to review the Sustainable Travel Intervention vision, steps and actions.	PSB Sustainable Travel Board along with other partners	25 th Feb 2020
Meeting to consider changes to the Intervention in light of Covid-19 pandemic	PSB Sustainable Travel Board	23 rd Jul 2020
Final Agreement of the changes	PSB	8 th Sep 2020

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Act is about “sustainable development” which is the process of improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action in accordance with the sustainable development principle aimed at achieving the well-being goals.

In the **long term**, improving local integrated sustainable travel networks will help to improve air quality, reduce carbon emission and have a positive impact on climate change, which will affect future generations. Sustainable travel options help to **prevent** poor air quality, which impacts on people’s health and the wider environment we live in.

Local **integrated** sustainable travel networks meet all of the Well-being Goals:

- **A prosperous Wales:** They support economic growth and enable people to access education and employment.
- **A resilient Wales:** They improve air quality, reduce carbon emissions and have a positive impact on climate change.
- **A healthier Wales:** They improve health by reducing carbon emissions, improving air quality and enabling people to travel more actively.
- **A more equal Wales:** They will enable all people and communities to fulfil their full potential no matter what background and circumstances they come from.
- **A Wales of cohesive communities:** They connect communities.
- **A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language:** They can connect people and communities for social and cultural activities.
- **A globally responsible Wales:** They will not only improve the economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being of Newport and Wales, it will also make a positive contribution to global well-being.

The sustainable travel intervention changes have been developed by **involving** and **collaborating** with partners.

Contacts

Ceri Doyle, Chief Executive, Newport City Homes

ceri.doyle@newportcityhomes.com

Emma Wakeham, Senior Policy & Partnership Officer, Newport City Council

emma.wakeham@newport.gov.uk

Annex 1: Proposed Changes to the Sustainable Travel Intervention

Proposed New Vision

Efficient, safe, and healthy travel, accessible to all, with overall low impact on the environment, prioritising walking, cycling and integrated public transport and also considering car sharing and ultra-low emission vehicles.

Proposed Steps and Actions

Note: Partners agreed that the three steps were still relevant so these are unchanged. However, the actions specified to meet the steps are amended.

Short term (0-5 years: 2018-23)	Medium term (5-10 years: 2023-28)	Long term (10-25 years: 2028-43)
Step 1: PSB to become champions of sustainable travel, leading by example and reducing the public sector’s contribution to air pollution. To include:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All PSB organisations to sign up to a sustainable travel charter to demonstrate their commitment to supporting walking, cycling, public transport, agile working and ultra-low emission vehicle use. Work together to achieve the pledges and targets set out in the travel charter. 10% of PSB vehicle fleet to be ultra-low emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review progress and agree a new travel charter for 2023-28. 50% of PSB vehicle fleet to be ultra-low emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of PSB vehicle fleet to be ultra-low emissions.
Step 2: Create an environment where public transport, walking and cycling is prioritised. To include:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an integrated walking, cycling and public transport network across the city, which builds on the shift in public behaviour prompted by the Covid-19 pandemic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop an integrated walking, cycling and public transport network across the city. Prioritise walking and cycling in highway design. Continue to target active travel and anti-idling campaigns with schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work towards Newport becoming a walking, cycling and public transport friendly city. Develop low emission zones or clean air zones.

Short term (0-5 years: 2018-23)	Medium term (5-10 years: 2023-28)	Long term (10-25 years: 2028-43)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and carry out a public awareness campaign based on behaviour change concepts to promote sustainable travel. • Monitor the temporary measures in response to Covid-19 across and use the learning to plan for the future. • Realise on street bike share across the city. • Target active travel for the school run and anti-idling campaigns outside school gates. • Tackle illegal parking throughout the city to prioritise walking, cycling and public transport. • Develop supplementary planning guidance to encourage developers to include options for integrated sustainable travel within new developments, and link in to the wider area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with bus providers and regional partners to implement ultra-low emission bus fleet across the city. • Work with Cardiff Capital City Region Programme to investigate the possibility of integrated ticketing. 	
<p>Step 3: Encourage the use of ultra-low emission vehicles. To include:</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the installation of electric charging points across the city to encourage the use of electric vehicles. • Develop HGV / LGV fuel economy partnership scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a fuel economy partnership scheme for taxi fleet. • Support and encourage the Newport taxi fleet to move to ultra-low emission taxis. • Support and encourage the local businesses to move fleet to ultra-low emission taxis. 	

Public Services Board (PSB)

8th September 2020

Safer Newport – during COVID -19 pandemic

Purpose

To update the PSB on progress to date of the Safer Newport community safety partnership and ongoing work through the COVID 19 pandemic

Background

Safer Newport is the city's community safety partnership and delivers on emerging local community safety issues and problem solving regarding:

- Safer city centre
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- Serious and organised crime (SOC)
- Local neighbourhood issues

The PSB received a progress update at the December 2019 meeting, which noted the positive work of Safer Newport since it was established in June 2018.

Update

The following key progress has been achieved – during a period of lockdown the Community Safety Partnership has adapted and a range of support has been provided in accordance with the changing needs of the community

Safer City Centre:

- Work has taken place in order to support the night time economy, a good partnership approach and use of the Police city safe plan.
- NCC and Police have met with all partners including the BID and Pub Watch to discuss options for fully reopening pubs and other premises in the coming weeks, and road closures have been implemented

Anti-Social Behaviour

- ASB group has continued to meet and consider COVID 19 ASB and SOC issues that are ongoing.
- Police data shows a year on year reduction in ASB incidents, although this does not reflect local issues and increases
- Resilient communities teams and other partners are looking at ways that diversionary activities can still be undertaken over key periods

- The ASB operational group has been tasked with looking at how we can support young adults (aged between 18-25 and 26-35), who account for a higher percentage of ASB incidents

Serious and Organised Crime

- The two funding streams for Serious Violence and Serious & Organised Crime have now amalgamated in SVOC. Although there is still a significant focus on Newport there are resources invested in this threat area across the rest of Gwent.
- Although COVID 19 has had an impact on the delivery of services, there is still work ongoing by St Giles Trust/Barnardo's and Fearless to support those who are at risk of participating in Serious Organised Crime.
- Operation Solar – an undercover police operation focusing on drug dealers in the city The Home Office are using this and the wider SOC work in Newport as a case study and sharing it as best practice across other police forces

Local Neighbourhood issues

- At the beginning of lockdown a task and finish group chaired by Gwent Police was set up to provide a coordinated response to support rough sleepers in the community. The group met fortnightly with representatives from a range of services including NCC, ABUHB, housing, and support agencies. The group has supported rough sleepers via a holistic approach to find suitable accommodation and to enable access the right support to maintain tenancy.
- The issue with car cruising has been suppressed by Covid-19, and there has only been one recent incident reported in Newport. There are no longer gatherings in Spytty Retail Park a previous problem area for car cruising
- Gatherings have been diverted using target hardening approaches and working with local businesses. Longer term solutions are being considered including PSPO
- There have been ongoing neighbourhood issues in regards to the Pillgwenlly area of the city. A task and finish group with a range of partners and the community has been set up to work collaboratively to combat the issues faced in the area. The group will have the capability to direct resources to tackle problems and support opportunities to improve the area, with problem solving plans in place.

Recommendations

PSB members are asked to:

1. Note the positive work of Safer Newport over the last six months, and continue to support this partnership approach through their own organisations;

Timetable Immediate

Well-being of Future Generations

As detailed in the previous report (June 2019), Safer Newport is the city's community safety partnership as required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, but also acts as a subgroup of the PSB. The priorities of Safer Newport have been set based on data and intelligence relating to the key community safety issues for the city. All of the priorities reflect the five ways of working and contribute to a number of the national well-being goals and the interventions in the Well-being Plan.

Communication

The work of Safer Newport and the sub groups is regularly communicated through official channels by all partner organisations. Communication is a standing agenda item for each Safer Newport meeting and any issues or requests are discussed as required. A new regional communication group has been set up to share the work of all the community safety partnerships across Gwent.

Contact

Chief Supt Tom Harding, Gwent Police Tom.Harding@gwent.pnn.police.uk

Leigh Vella, Partnership Team, Newport City Council leigh.vella@newport.gov.uk

Public Services Board

08 September 2020

Allocation of Natural Resources Wales grant funding to support delivery of PSB well-being objectives across Wales

Purpose

This paper gives an overview of the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) strategic allocated funding grant.

Background

As an organisation NRW are committed to working collaboratively to further the delivery of the PSB's well-being plans and objectives.

To support this way of working, NRW's Board has agreed to a ring-fenced grant to be made available to all PSBs in Wales, with an intention of this funding continuing for the period from 2020/21 – 2023/24. This means an amount of £25,000 for each PSB this financial year. This funding must be spent by 31/03/2021 and, this year, PSBs have the option to spend the money locally (on individual PSB work) or regionally (by pooling with other Gwent PSBs).

The grant letter is attached Annex A.

Local officers are already investigating the possibilities for utilising the funding. The main possibilities that are currently being investigated are:

- 1) City Centre greening feasibility and engagement project.
- 2) Local community greening projects in various locations across the city.
- 3) Community Carbon Literacy Training
- 4) Graffiti wall project.
- 5) Community digital literacy confidence building and skill training.
- 6) Carbon reduction projects.

In addition, a meeting is taking place week commencing 14th September 2020 to discuss opportunities to pool funding across Gwent.

Once investigations are complete an application will be submitted by the closing date in October.

Recommendations

Board members are asked to agree on taking the full allocation of the grant.

Timetable

Task	By Whom	Date
Grant offer letter issued/received	Chair	25 Aug 2020
Confirmation required of accepting grant offer	PSB / PSB Support Officer	11 Sep 2020
Submit Application	PSB / PSB Support Officers	9 Oct 2020
Outcome of application	NRW	Nov 2020
Grant to be spent	PSB	31 Mar 2021

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This funding will further the delivery of the Well-being Plan and the PSB well-being objectives and therefore supports the ethos of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The outcomes of the projects delivered via the grant based on the delivering on the well-being goals and the five ways of working of the sustainable development principle: long-term, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement

Contacts

Ceri Davies, Executive Director for Evidence, Policy and Permitting, Natural Resources Wales

Ceri.Davies@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Steve Morgan, Head of Operations South East Wales, Natural Resources Wales

Steve.Morgan@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Emma Wakeham, Senior Policy & Partnership Officer, Newport City Council

Emma.Wakeham@newport.gov.uk

Dear Newport Public Services Board Chair,

Allocation of Natural Resources Wales grant funding to support delivery of the well-being objectives of the Public Services Boards across Wales.

NRW is represented on all 19 PSBs across Wales. As an organisation we are committed to working collaboratively to further the delivery of the PSB's well-being plans and objectives. To support this way of working, NRW's Board has agreed to a ring-fenced grant to be made available to all PSBs in Wales, with an intention of this funding continuing for the period from 2020/21 – 2023/24. This means an amount of £25,000 for each PSB this financial year. This funding must be spent by 31/03/2021 and, this year, PSBs have the option to spend the money locally (on individual PSB work) or regionally (by pooling with other Gwent PSBs).

We recognise that the last six months have been exceptional. The PSB has not met face to face since the start of the year and we have therefore not had the opportunity to discuss this grant and how we should work collectively to prioritise spend this year. Despite this, we feel it's important to follow through with the grant commitment this financial year. Building the resilience of our communities, their connection with nature and tackling the climate and nature emergencies remain vitally important as we plan for a green recovery. The purpose of this funding is to support Public Services Boards to:

- Deliver the agreed priorities set out in the PSB well-being plan, including better coordination and new ways of working, with a particular focus on those priorities that maximise the contribution to the nature and climate emergencies.

In Gwent, partners continue to exhibit a commitment to the strong collaborative working arrangements we have embedded regionally, and an appetite to continue to drive delivery in an integrated way across all five PSBs. Strategically, there is consistency in addressing the climate and nature emergencies in all Local Well-being Plans, underpinned by shared green recovery planning. Moreover, opportunities for strengthening collaboration and integration across Gwent stand to increase over the coming months as we explore options for formalising regional working arrangements.

We would encourage all PSBs to consider pooling this funding allocation and using it to progress regional workstreams and opportunities. This funding could be used to support ongoing and/or emerging work, including (but not limited to):

- PSBs' active role in the green recovery (as per letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government, June 2020)

- Climate Ready Gwent
- Resilient Greater Gwent (RGG)
- Gwent Green Grid (GGGP)
- Local Well-being Assessments
- Building A Healthier Gwent outcomes

This is a way of working that we will continue in future years with the aim of allocating longer term funding for PSBs from next financial year onwards. In Gwent, we are keen to prioritise regional collaborative opportunities with this funding going forward, recognising that a regional approach may not be feasible this year given timescales. Please be aware that if you do not feel that the PSB is in a position to deliver against the full/part allocation this year, this will have no bearing on any future funding allocation offers.

The request is to respond to this letter by close of business on Friday 11/09/2020 Following confirmation that the PSB wishes to accept full/part allocation, you will be requested to complete a proposal for how the funding will be used. The deadline for completed proposals is Friday 09/10/2020. We are working with your PSB coordinator to support in understanding and completing this document and will send all paperwork directly to them. We would encourage you to discuss this opportunity with your NRW PSB lead at your earliest convenience, specifically whether your PSB is in a position to access this funding this year and whether the preference in doing so would be to deliver locally or regionally. We look forward to speaking to you soon.

Yours sincerely

Steve Morgan

Pennaeth Gweithrediadau De Ddwyrain Cymru / Head of Operations South East Wales

cc.

Newport PSB coordinator

NRW Newport PSB lead

NRW Newport PSB support officer

Public Services Board (PSB)

08 September 2020

GWENT VAWDASV PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Purpose

This annual report is provided to Gwent Public Services Boards (PSBs) following agreed governance and reporting in 2017. As key accountability partners in the delivery of the VAWDASV strategy the five Gwent PSBs have discharged statutory responsibilities under the VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015 through the Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board. This arrangement provides a formal link into the Gwent PSBs with VAWDASV reporting being in support of well-being plans submitted to Welsh Government.

The Gwent VAWDASV Strategy 2018 – 2023 was published in May and this annual report offers an update on work in 2019-20.

Background

The Gwent VAWDASV Strategy is required under the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 which calls for the public sector in Wales to work together in a consistent and cohesive way to prevent VAWDASV and to improve the outcomes for individuals and their families affected.

Gwent is unique in its position as the Welsh Government pilot area for regionalisation and, as the pathfinder region, is bringing together the strategic governance, development and co-ordination of the VAWDASV agenda ahead of other regions in Wales. The role of the VAWDASV Partnership Board is to develop, approve and monitor the regional strategy on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence as required under the Act.

Following an independent evaluation (Cordis Bright 2016), governance was reviewed and the new Board and sub group structure introduced in April 2017. The regional strategy for VAWDASV seeks to influence, shape and contribute to meeting key regional policy priorities across other agendas. There is alignment and on-going development across regional boards and significant integration of work with Gwent Safeguarding.

Recommendation

To note the information in the annual report.

Timetable Immediate

Well-being of Future Generations

In line with The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 the Partnership intends to deliver on the actions within the strategy using the “sustainable development principle” and following the five ways of working to ensure they work collaboratively with people and communities, avoid repeating past mistakes and tackle some of the long terms challenges.

Accordingly this will be achieved by:

- *Prevention: Recognising that early intervention is the primary overarching principle to tackling VAWDASV and improving outcomes for victims and those closest to them, particularly children in families.*
- *Integration: Consider how the violence against women domestic abuse and sexual violence objectives impact upon each of the well-being goals, and on the objectives and priorities of other key statutory services strategies.*
- *Collaboration: Members of The Partnership Board will work collaboratively with partners and stakeholders to ensure that the actions, objectives and targets of this strategy are met.*
- *Involvement: We will ensure that we engage and involve the right people at the right time with a focus on survivor engagement.*
- *Long Term: We will approach regional commissioning and the implementation of an agreed sustainable funding model pragmatically and ensure that the short term needs of survivors continue to be met whilst any longer term reconfiguration is undertaken*
(Gwent VAWDASV Strategy page 25)

Communication

This report does not contain information of a restricted or confidential nature and has been submitted to each of the Gwent Public Services Boards.

Background Papers

Links to the Gwent Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy:

- [Gwent Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse Sexual Violence Strategy 2018 - 2023](#)
- [Gwent Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse Sexual Violence Strategy 2018 – 2023 - Welsh version](#)
- [Gwent Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse Sexual Violence Strategy 2018 – 2023 \(Easy Read Version\)](#)
- [Gwent Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse Sexual Violence Strategy 2018 - 2023 \(Easy Read Welsh Version\)](#)

Contact mary.ryan@newport.gov.uk



Gwent Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
Trais Yn Erbyn Menywod, Cham-drin Domestig a Thrais Rhywiol Gwent

Title: UPDATE REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE GWENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Subject: GWENT VAWDASV PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

Version: 2

Date: 19th June 2020

Purpose

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on Local Authorities and Local Health Boards to publish a report of the progress made during each financial year in achieving the objectives specified in local/regional strategies. The statutory responsibilities under the VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015 are discharged through the VAWDASV Partnership Board and annual reporting against the regional strategy and delivery plan are submitted into Gwent Public Services Boards.

The Gwent VAWDASV strategy 2018 – 2023, approved by each of the Gwent Public Service Boards in 2018 prior to publication in May 2018, sets out Gwent’s aims against the six strategic priorities. This report describes the progress made against the Strategy in 2019/20. .

Unfortunately, due to the implication of COVID on partner agencies, supporting data is not available within timescales. This situation has led to a delay in sign-off by each Public Service Board and publication on the Gwent Safeguarding website.

Background

The Gwent Regional Team was established in April 2015 to formalise regional collaboration; to bring together and further develop structures to implement new legislative requirements under the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015. The early development of the regional model based on progress made as the pilot area for regionalisation for Welsh Government. Cordis Bright independently evaluated this in 2015, based on a set of recommendations that set the direction for continued regional working. As the national pathfinder region, we have brought together the strategic governance, development and co-ordination of the VAWDASV agenda ahead of other regions in Wales.

The Welsh Government VAWDASV Grant is one element of funding that contributes to the regional response to VAWDASV. This grant funds the regional coordination team, training, communication and engagement and just over 50% towards the regional IDVA service. Funding is on annual basis on approval of the regional delivery plan.

The Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board (Board) provides governance for the region in respect to VAWDASV. Board membership includes representatives from each of the five local authorities, Gwent Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Wales Ambulance Service Trust, Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Services, Registered Social Landlords, Supporting People (Housing Support Grant) Regional Teams, Fire and Rescue Service, Gwent Safeguarding Boards, and VAWDASV specialist sector partners. A senior Welsh Government Official attends each Board meeting enabling two way sharing of information, practice sharing and risk management.

Through a structure of working groups the VAWDASV Partnership Board, ensures that the priorities identified in the Strategy translate into actions that can make a real difference to the well-being and safety of people living in Gwent, both now and in the future.

Working groups, reporting into the Board, are listed below:

- Gwent VAWDASV Strategic Delivery Group
- Gwent Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Planning Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Communication and Engagement Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Whole Education Approach Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Commissioners Group
- Gwent MARAC Steering Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Perpetrators Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Training Sub Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Steering Group
- Gwent VAWDASV Specialist Sector meeting

June 2020

The level of membership and collaboration across the groups ensures all partnership agencies are well represented, maintaining a strong focus on those affected by VAWDASV across Gwent.

To strengthen the work of the region, Gwent is represented on Welsh Government groups including: Sustainable funding group; National Training Framework Ask and Act Steering Group; All Wales Honour Based Abuse Leadership Group; and the Perpetrator Work Stream and associated task and finish groups. All learning from these groups is shared with Board and relevant sub groups, and provides Gwent with the opportunity to raise any concerns with the appropriate members of Welsh Government.

Strategy and Delivery plan

As detailed above the initial focus for the Board was to formalise regional collaboration by developing and publicising The Gwent VAWDASV Strategy 2018 – 2023. Published in May 2018, the strategy identifies six Strategic priorities that will contribute to the pursuit of the **prevention** of violence and abuse, the **protection** of victims and the **support** of all those affected. <https://www.gwentsafeguarding.org.uk/Documents-en/VAWDASV/Gwent-VAWDASV-Strategy.pdf> .

Since publication, detailed objectives and actions under each strategic priority (SP) are identified and monitored through the annual delivery plan. The Gwent Strategic Delivery Group is responsible for monitoring and evaluating progress against this delivery plan, with key risks escalated to the Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board. In addition to the monitoring and evaluation undertaken by the Strategic Delivery Group (SDG) and Board, relevant authority scrutiny processes also evaluate performance through an annual progress report. Progress against each strategic priority is detailed in the appendix.

2019-20 Considerations

At the end of 2018-19 the regional hub in Mamhilad closed. It has to be noted, the loss of the regional base in Mamhilad has had a significant effect on the regional team and partners. The team have been working remotely for the majority of the year, with some hot desking at Malpas Road Fire Station. This arrangement has been on hold since March 20th due to COVID-19.

2019-20 saw a significant change in staffing for the Regional VAWDASV Team. Rebecca Haycock left the team early in the year. As Regional Advisor, Rebecca had supported the work of the region since the introduction of the VAWDASV (Wales) Act, and was instrumental in the development of the Board and associated achievements. A review of the team against the needs of the strategy commenced and a new post of Regional Partnership Coordinator was recruited to in January 2020.

The regional VAWDASV revenue grant was not confirmed until August 2019, which had an additional impact on the work of the region during the first quarter of the financial year.

In March 2020, the regional team created and circulated a survey via survey monkey to assess the impact on those working within partnership agencies. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and increased pressure responses were limited and this was closed within a short period. In total 20 responses were received. Overall, all respondents echoed the perceptions of the team in relation to the negative impact on relationships and collaborative working. A negative impact on those in Gwent affected by VAWDASV, and a reduction in the importance and focus on VAWDASV through limited informal conversations was an additional concern. With the outbreak of COVID and associated restrictions, the region are developing other ways of sharing information and best practice, along with highlighting any areas of need that hope to minimise the effect of the loss of the hub.

COVID-19 restrictions had a significant impact on planned activities for the end of 2019-20, including Gwent wide consultation events to further enhance understanding across Gwent communities. These restrictions will continue into

2020-21 and the region is working on ways of ensuring people are protected and supported, whilst working to prevent violence and abuse using methods suitable to these circumstances.

Survivor Engagement

The importance of engaging with those affected by VAWDASV runs throughout the VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015, and the Gwent Strategy. During 2019-20, Gwent Police employed a Survivor Engagement Coordinator to coordinate police related engagement across the region. Together with regional consultation including the M.A.R.S. (Male Abuse and Rape Survivors) Group and specialist sector consultation processes, these will enable more effective feedback collation and the gathering and sharing of suggestions to improve responses and support across Gwent. The Gwent VAWDASV Involvement and Engagement Introductory Guide¹, and the Communication and Engagement Sub Group support and coordinate these activities and learning.

Commissioning and Partnership Collaboration

Following the publication of the Welsh Government Statutory Guidance for the Commissioning of VAWDASV Services in Wales, the VAWDASV Commissioners Group formed to embed the guidance across Gwent and to ensure decisions needs led, based upon the updated needs assessment, and have a strong focus on collaboration.

During 2019-20 partnership funding was used to appoint a MARAC Coordinator to support the quality assurance of the MARAC process in Gwent, and the support provided to those victims assessed as high-risk. The coordinator started at the beginning of 2019 and has already aided the progress against the MARAC action plan, and in adapted processes to meet COVID-19 restrictions.

As with previous years, the VAWDASV revenue grant allocated just over 50% to joint fund the regional IDVA service with Gwent OPCC. The demand on the team has increased, in line with the increase in cases discussed at MARAC. The funding and increased demand of this service was discussed at Board in January 2020 with a commissioning options paper requested for discussion and agreement.

Work continued during 2019-20 in align the work of the regional board, in particular overarching priorities with the Gwent Safeguarding Boards. With the appointment of the new Gwent VAWDASV Lead Regional Advisor, and the new Gwent Safeguarding Business Manager, towards the end of the financial year, this work will continue throughout 2020-21. Unfortunately, the planned meetings with the Chairs of each Board were delayed due to COVID so this remains a focus for the later part of 2020-21. The joint website is however now live, embedding safeguarding and VAWDASV work across the region.

Looking forward

2020-21 plans, detailed in the local delivery plan and agreed by Welsh Government, are being reviewed to ensure relevance in the 'new world' following COVID-19. The key focus for the beginning of the financial year will be responding to the additional needs identified during the onset of COVID, and then to changes in need based on the easing of restrictions. Although it is likely the nature of the objectives will not change, the way in which these are achieved will need to be reviewed and updated.

Signed:



Chair on behalf of Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board

¹ <https://www.gwentsafeguarding.org.uk/en/VAWDASV/Involvement/Gwent-Involvement-and-Engagement/Gwent-Involvement-and-Engagement.aspx>

APPENDIX

Highlighted progress against each of the six strategic priorities during 2019-20 are listed below, although it is important to note some overlap. As highlighted earlier, not all data for 2019-20 is available, but has been incorporated where available.

Strategic Priority 1: Increase awareness and challenge attitudes of VAWDASV across Gwent:

Overseen by the Gwent VAWDASV Communication and Engagement Group

- Development and building of the VAWDASV pages on the Gwent Safeguarding website including a Gwent Service Directory. This has enabled a 'one point of access' facility for practitioners and citizens across Gwent for local VAWDASV and Safeguarding information and resources.
- Development and cascading of a Gwent awareness raising poster campaign with Gwent survivor case studies and images. Survivors supported by Gwent services were involved in the case studies and images supporting the Gwent 'there is no excuse for any abuse' campaign. This campaign was produced, and is promoted, by the regional VAWDASV team, Gwent OPCC, Gwent Police and partner support agencies. Printed copies of the poster and associated information leaflet were disseminated to partner agencies across Gwent, including local authorities, health and support services. One of the men involved in this campaign (as part of the M.A.R.S. Group), was interviewed by BBC Wales and Wales on line. He states this has been helpful for himself and has made a difference to people he knows. He saw a poster in his local GP surgery with his image, and was proud of how he is helping others to come forward and seek support.
 Since COVID this campaign has transferred to social media channels. More information and statistics on the success of this campaign will be shared in the 2020-21 annual progress report.
 All Welsh Government VAWDASV campaigns and information, including Live Fear Free, is shared at all times, including via social media and the dissemination of awareness raising merchandise.
- To mark White Ribbon Day on the 25th November 2019 the region hosted an event in Caldicot Castle, Monmouthshire. Partners from across the region supported this event which was opened by a Monmouthshire counsellor, and closed with a presentation from a local school on how children and young people are affected by domestic abuse. Despite poor weather, and a muddy path, this event was well attended by community members, support services and users, local political representatives and children and young people from schools and Heddlu Bach.
- During May and November 2019 awareness raising and best practice sessions were facilitated at each of the five Local Safeguarding Networks. These sessions reach a large number of practitioners and raise awareness of VAWDASV as part of the wider safeguarding agenda. In May, the session focused on mental health and VAWDASV, highlighting the importance of looking at all aspects of a person's needs and how these can be supported holistically, rather than focusing on just one aspect of their lives. November 2019's session was developed and supported by the members of the M.A.R.S. Group. The men from the group, and other male survivors, shared their experiences both in person and via video and voice recordings. Feedback from the event was extremely positive with practitioners taking time to talk to the M.A.R.S. representative about experiences they, and men they know, have lived through.
- Extensive consultation with male and female survivors, service managers and operational staff was facilitated in 2019-20 specifically in relation to updating the region's needs assessment. This feedback was instrumental in ensuring the needs assessment reflects the changing needs of the region and how these could be prevented,

June 2020

protected and supported moving forward. All activities were supported by the Gwent VAWDASV Involvement and Engagement Introductory Guide. Unfortunately, planned community events scheduled at the end of March 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

- The male consultation group first convened in March 2019 requested the continuation of meetings to further raise the issue of male victims, and to support other men with similar experiences. During 2019-20 the group met monthly and designed a group name and logo. Their name of choice is – M.A.R.S. (Male Abuse and Rape Survivors) and they are working to influence services in Gwent to recognise the needs and experiences of men affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence. To date the group have met with representatives of Gwent Police, Gwent Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Newport Mind, and organisations providing healthy relationship training to local schools. Due to COVID-19 the group are meeting via video call and are keen to progress this work into 2020-21.

Strategic Priority 2: Increase awareness of children and young people on safe, equal and healthy relationships, and that abusive behaviour is always wrong

Overseen by the Gwent VAWDASV Whole Education Approach Group

- The group worked in partnership to develop and disseminate the Whole Education Response to VAWDASV, Gwent Implementation Guide during 2019-20. This document is designed to show why, how and where VAWDASV and supporting guidance for education services fits so that head teachers are able to support and resource their school to best prevent, protect and support pupils, parents and staff. Feedback to date has been positive and has led to more enquiries for teachers to access Ask and Act training.
- Operation Encompass was introduced in Gwent schools during 2019-20. This provides schools with information on any pupils involved in police operation at the beginning of each day, and enables them to provide a supportive environment for those children and young people. This, along with the above, has raised the issue of VAWDASV in schools and how they can support their pupils.
- As the funded organisation providing healthy relationship sessions in Welsh schools, Spectrum are represented on the Gwent Whole Education Approach Group. By being involved and sharing information, Spectrum are able to visit Gwent schools based on changes in need. It also enables the group to identify and address any gaps in provision. In 2019-20 Spectrum delivered 482 sessions with 5,500 pupils and 425 staff members in attendance from across Gwent schools.
- Prior to lock down discussions began with South Wales University on how guidance can be supported within Further and Higher education. The Regional Training and Education Coordinator was asked to facilitate a presentation to a wider audience but this was put on hold once COVID-19 affected education.
- An additional grant became available in 2019/20 to develop a communication activity. Based on need in Gwent, we used the funds to pilot a project to train year 9 healthy relationship ambassadors in Gwent schools. Sixty-eight delegates completed the Healthy Relationship Ambassador training sessions. One session facilitated in each of the five Gwent local authority areas. Feedback on the sessions was very positive, both from the Ambassadors and staff support members. The final element of the pilot, for ambassadors to deliver a session to a wider school assembly was put on hold due to school closures with COVID-19. There is a real appetite to widen this project to other schools across Gwent. Examples of feedback from ambassadors below:
 'It was absolutely fantastic, I learned a lot and I believe that I could help people'.
 'I found the part where we discussed the changes people may make the most helpful because it has taught me what I'm looking for.'

June 2020

Strategic Priority 3: Increased focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety

Overseen by a recently formed Gwent VAWDASV Perpetrator Group

- The perpetrator group focused on the development of an action plan for Gwent based on the publication of the Mapping of VAWDASV Perpetrator Services across Gwent (Miles 2018) report, and latterly the Welsh Government Perpetrator Service Standards and the Welsh Government VAWDASV Good Practice Guidance for Non-specialist Welsh Public Services on Working with Adult Perpetrators.
- Facilitated a presentation on the perpetrator standards to the commissioning group stressing the importance of incorporating these within any tenders for perpetrator services. Due the interest on this topic, commissioners invited service providers to their following meeting to discuss the importance and value of perpetrator interventions and the gaps in service across different areas of Gwent.
- Members of the Perpetrator Group represent Gwent on the Welsh Government perpetrator work streams and task and finish groups, sharing best practice, including mapping services across Gwent.
- Twenty-five additional service users received perpetrator interventions following an application for further Welsh Government funding in 2019/20. This enabled people outside of Blaenau Gwent and from different demographics, including female perpetrators to receive support, which would not have previously been freely available to them. The group promoted these additional places to practitioners across Gwent.
- Wider influence has been achieved through membership and cross sharing of information, priorities and best practice with other relevant stakeholders including the Gwent Criminal Justice Board, Specialist Domestic Violence Courts Steering Group and other key stakeholders. The group was therefore involved in the review of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts, with the aim of improving the criminal justice system for victims across Gwent and wider Wales.

Strategic Priority 4: Make early intervention and prevention a priority

Shared oversight by the DHR Planning Group and the MARAC Steering Group

- As with survivor engagement, early intervention and prevention is articulated for each strategic priority throughout the delivery plan and ensures a focus on the whole VAWDASV agenda and all protected characteristics.
- Gwent was invited to be part of a DHR Review with the Universities of Lancaster and Manchester. This research is ongoing and supported by the regional VAWDASV team and the Gwent DHR Planning Group, with the support of all partners and Board members.
- Following the pilot project in Gwent and liaison with Welsh Government and the Home Office, 2019-20 saw the development of a DH-APR (Domestic Homicide-Adult Practice Review) process to improve DHR processes for families and learning across Gwent. Findings and learning from this process is cited as good practice and forms the foundation of the Welsh Government Single Unified Safeguarding Review work moving into 2020-21.
- To support the new DH-APR and other reviews across Gwent such as the Adult and Child practice reviews, members of the VAWDASV and Gwent Safeguarding Board facilitated training sessions in February 2020.

June 2020

This has enabled the learning of those attendees, and increased the pool of reviewers and panel members able to support any reviews moving forward.

- Following a SafeLives review of the MARAC process in Gwent during 2017 the MARAC Steering Group developed and actioned a Gwent MARAC Implementation Plan. This work has been driven forward by the appointment of the MARAC Coordinator who took up her post in January 2020. This post is the first post of its kind in Gwent, as Board partners, including the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, and all five Gwent local authorities, pooled together to fund it.
- As with review training mentioned above, increasing the capacity and quality of MARAC meetings became a focus in 2019-20. This included the facilitation of MARAC Chair and conference member training based on the updated Gwent MARAC Protocol.

Strategic Priority 5: Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims

Overseen by the Gwent VAWDASV Training Sub Group

- The Training Sub Group continues to assist and advise relevant authorities in fulfilling their requirements under the National Training Framework (NTF) as part of their duties under the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) (Wales) Act 2015.
- 2019-2020 saw a significant change in how Ask and Act is administered across the region. The Gwent VAWDASV board decided that Local Authority areas should take on the administration and organisation of their training and deliver specifically against the needs of their local staff force.
- The regional NTF training information for 2019-2020 is as follows;

Group 1 2019/2020

Relevant Authority	ABUHB	Blaenau Gwent	Caerphilly	Monmouthshire	Newport	Torfaen
Workforce	13060	3096	7758	3070	5725	3900
Year Total 2019-2020	2260	298	499	345	493	826
Group 1 completed training from roll out to date	12132	2401	4150	2734	2684	4058
As percentage of workforce - those trained from rollout to date	92.89%	77.55%	53.49%	89.06%	46.88%	104.05%

Group 2 2019/2020

	ABUHB	Blaenau Gwent	Caerphilly	Monmouthshire	Newport	Torfaen
Area Totals Attendance Group 2	0	12	145	38	44	10
Internal LA delivery only	220	21	116	0	0	0
Area Totals Attendance Group 3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overall Totals	220	33	261	38	44	10
Gwent Year Total						

Overall, since roll out in 2016 this now gives the region the following

Totals 2016-2020	Regional Totals
Overall Group 1 Total	28159
Overall Group 2 Total	1661
Overall Group 3 Total	71

- This means that over 30,000 members of staff across Gwent have received VAWDASV Training. The benefit of this training to the workforce means that more staff are aware of the indicators and complexities of VAWDASV, improving the identification, response and support to those affected. Within that, those who have completed Ask and Act training have also increased their confidence when working with those who have or are experiencing VAWDASV of any kind.
- Additionally over the last year the following training course have taken place;

Course	Attendees
Understanding Domestic Abuse	43
Understanding Domestic Abuse, Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference	35
Understanding Domestic Abuse and Effects on Children	53
Understanding Sexual Violence	62
Understanding Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence	65
Understanding Perpetrators	81
Total 2019-2020	339

Strategic Priority 6: To provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced high quality need led strength based gender responsive services.

Overseen by the Strategic Delivery Group and newly formed Gwent VAWDASV Commissioners Group

- The VAWDASV Commissioners Group formed with the aim of supporting the region to meet the requirements of the Welsh Government VAWDASV Commissioning Guidance. Representation from statutory commissioning bodies and funding agencies on the group provides the opportunity for improved collaborative and partnership funding and commissioning, whilst supporting the sustainable funding agenda. The terms of reference for the group concentrates on the development and agreement of a Gwent VAWDASV Commissioning Strategy and Framework. Unfortunately, COVID affected this area of work at the end of the financial year.
- During 2019-20 engagement with members of the Strategic Delivery Group, statutory partners, support agencies, service users and frontline practitioners supported the updating of the Gwent VAWDASV needs assessment. This identifies areas of need across the region and evidences the decision-making processes of the commissioning group.
- This assessment and the work of the SDG aims to identify at risk services, research best practice and develop effective solutions. During 2019-20, this includes raising the profile and need of those experiencing sexual exploitation by the sex industry.
- The regions IDVA service has continued to provide a consistent service to high-risk victims across Gwent and is currently able to support all those discussed at MARAC. This service is at capacity and a paper was discussed at Board with a decision to develop a commissioning option paper for the service. Part of the service provided is target-hardening equipment to help with risk management. This is a vital resource for many victims and survivors.

Wider Regional Team Responsibilities

Since its initial pathfinder status the Gwent Regional Team and Partnership Board, continue to influence national policy via Welsh Government and the Home Office. Key examples are this for 2019-20 are in relation to the new DH-APR review, the National Training Framework, Sustainable funding, and overall progression of the VAWDASV Act. This has been achieved, through face- to- face discussions, written submissions and position papers.

The Regional team continue to use their membership of the Gwent Safeguarding Board, and associated sub groups, to embed VAWDASV ensuring the context is included in all safeguarding procedures and developments across the region. Work is ongoing as to how to better align all regional groups to further raise the VAWDASV agenda across Gwent and ensure it is seen as 'Everybody's Business'

Focus for 2020/21

In addition to responding to the COVID-19 implications and regular changes, the region has the following key areas for 2020-21:

- Influencing, shaping and embedding Welsh Government National Indicators, and advising relevant authorities on how these can be achieved
- Further development of the Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board including cross-cutting governance arrangements
- Development of a Gwent Action Plan to support Regional authorities to meet the requirements of the Welsh Government Good Practice Guidance for Non-specialist Welsh Public Services on Working with Adult Perpetrators
- Building upon partnerships to include those supporting across all protected characteristics

June 2020

Public Services Board (PSB)

08 September 2020

Community Wealth Building

Purpose

To outline a Community Wealth Building initiative proposed to be taken forward by the Gwent cluster of PSBs, which supports Newport Offer work in the Well-being Plan.

Background

Welsh Government has commissioned the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) to develop a process of progressive procurement across Wales, framed by 'Community wealth building'. CLES has been advising Welsh Government on how this agenda can be advanced through the development of local programmes linked to local wellbeing priorities. The aim of the project is:

“To effect systemic change in local economies across Wales by working with anchor institutions in selected Welsh Public Service Board areas to introduce and embed the community wealth building concept in these areas and disseminate policy and practice lessons across Wales; with a specific focus on progressive procurement approaches.”

In light of Covid-19, the work now includes a specific focus on *supporting local businesses which are at risk or vulnerable due to the pandemic and supporting the growth of local employment opportunities.*

Welsh Government wishes to take this work forward with regional clusters of PSBs, including a Gwent cluster. The proposal is to co-ordinate the work through G-SWAG, the regional sub group of the G10 Gwent leadership group. The initial focus would be on procurement and how PSB procurement could be used better in support of local community wealth building.

Community wealth building

Community wealth building is a people-centred approach to local economic development. It reorganises local economies to be fairer. It stops wealth flowing out of our communities, towns and cities. Instead, it places control of this wealth into the hands of local people, communities, businesses and organisations.

The five principles of community wealth building are:

- Anchor purchasing (Progressive procurement of goods and services)
- Plural ownership of the economy

- Making financial power work for local places
- Fair employment and just labour markets
- Socially productive use of land and property

Anchor organisations are key to the success of this work. They are local government, housing providers, police, education providers, hospitals, private businesses.

Anchor Purchasing

The CLES work for Wales will focus on anchor purchasing. The work programme includes a high-level 'community wealth building diagnostic' to assess the capacity for progressive procurement to improve community wealth building, a deep-dive on the procurement practices of the PSB and anchor institutions, and associated PSB workshops. The work through G-SWAG is intended to begin in early September with initial meetings with procurement leads in anchor organisations on PSBs in Gwent who are willing to be involved (the initial contact is being made with Newport City Council, ABUHB, NRW, SWFRS, Coleg Gwent, University of South Wales and housing associations).

A number of places have undertaken this work in England. Manchester has focused on anchor purchasing with a growth in spend within the city boundary from 51% to 71% between 2007/08 and 2017/18. Suppliers to Manchester City Council created 1.300 jobs and 665 apprentices in the city in 2017/18 as well as over 100,000 hours of support to the voluntary sector and significant employment opportunities in the wider Manchester region. In Preston the work has also increased the availability of Living Wage jobs.

In Newport this work would be consistent with the Well-being Plan, with potentially positive outcomes for the Newport Offer, Strong Resilient Communities and Right Skills.

Procurement is also identified as an area where public bodies can make positive steps in delivering against the Well-being Goals for Wales under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Proposal

The proposal is to note this work being undertaken through G-SWAG and confirm One Newport PSB's involvement, with progress on the work being reported through the Newport Offer.

Recommendation

PSB members are asked to:

1. Note the Community Wealth Building work being undertaken through G-SWAG
2. Report progress on this work through the Newport Offer

Timetable

Task	Deadline
Action planning workshops with PSB member procurement leads	September 2020
Implementing the work plans	October 2020 – February 2021
Refreshing the work plans	February – April 2021
Implementing the refreshed work plans	April – November 2021

Well-being of Future Generations Act

The benefits of community wealth building are long term with the prospect of growing the economy and creating employment opportunities.

The work is collaborative between members of the PSB and with other PSBs across Gwent,

The work complements the well-being of Future Generations Act and supports several interventions in the Well-being Plan, notably the Newport Offer, Strong Resilient Communities and Right Skills.

The project is intended to increase the flow of money back to local communities, thereby helping to prevent economic contraction.

how stakeholders have been involved in the proposal, collaboration with others, integration with the Well-being goals for Wales and the PSB's Well-being objectives, does the proposal prevent a situation happening or getting worse?

Communication

The outcome of the project will be publicised in conjunction with Welsh Government who are co-ordinating this work across Wales.

Contact: Nicola.dance@newport.gov.uk; Telephone 01633 233665.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

29 June 2020

Dear Colleague,

Review of Strategic Partnerships

You will be aware that throughout the second half of last year we undertook the Review of Strategic Partnerships. I am now pleased to attach the final report.

At the start of the review we asked for your views and along with additional fieldwork interviews those views have been drawn together into the final report. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for contributing to the review.

The report was presented to the Partnership Council for Wales on 11 June 2020 and was duly noted.

The final report sets out the findings from the review and makes a number of recommendations on ways in which the strategic partnership landscape can be rationalised and simplified. We will be looking at the recommendations and considering how we in Welsh Government take them forward, and support those involved in strategic partnerships to take them forward locally.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Germain', written in a cursive style.

Claire Germain
Deputy Director for Local Government Transformation and Partnerships

Review of Strategic Partnerships

FINAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	2
Background	4
Methodology.....	8
Definition	11
Alignment of Strategic Partnerships	13
Barriers to Aligning and Rationalising Partnerships	17
Governance and Accountability of Partnerships	18
Recommendations	22
Annex A – Initiation of the Review.....	24
Letter from the Leader of the WLGA and the Minister for Housing and Local Government.....	24
Terms of Reference.....	26
Annex B – Review of Strategic Partnerships – evidence gathered.....	29
Annex C – Legislative Status of Strategic Partnerships.....	31
Annex D – Letter from DMHSS and DMHLG regarding the relationship between PSBs and RPBs.....	36
Annex E – Relationships between Public Services Boards and Regional Partnership Boards	38

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This review is a result of joint working between the Welsh Government, Welsh Local Government Association and Welsh NHS Confederation to solve a mutual problem that is simplifying complexities in Welsh public services working together.

It is worth noting from the outset of this report that the scope of this review was to seek ways of simplifying and aligning the partnership landscape, working where possible within the current policy and leadership structures. The review was commissioned during a period when several other reviews into specific partnerships, such as Public Service Boards, Regional Partnership Boards and Regional Skills Partnerships, were ongoing. This review therefore sought to minimise additional burden on public services and has considered and incorporated observations from these wider reviews.

Views were sought to feed into this review and written submissions were received from 33 organisations, discussions were held with several national organisations, elected member and professional groupings and 16 in-depth interviews were held with various stakeholders.

The key issues raised were:

- The problem of ‘too many partnerships’ and ‘too many meetings’, particularly from those organisations that attend multiple partnerships in a given region.
- Despite the broad scope of the call for evidence a number of responses focused specifically on the Public Service Boards (PSBs) and Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs). For instance, there appear to be differing views on the distinction and overlap of interest of these boards.
- A majority of responses commented PSBs could be more effective if they had their own funding as some other partnerships do. They noted that their view is that the concept of pooled budgets is not generally happening in practice. The funding of policies in government departmental silos is seen by local government as promoting the proliferation of partnerships and shifting accountability from local communities to Welsh Government.
- Many of the current partnerships exist either through legislation or to manage a grant-funded programme of work on a mandated regional footprint. The nature of these usually leads to discrete – and unconnected - partnerships which can lead to additional bureaucracy through separate secretariat arrangements.
- With respect to improving the partnership landscape generally, there were a number of suggestions, but no consensus.
- It is clear the possible solutions, e.g. around pooling funding and determining footprints, are within the ambit of the current partnerships. Based on the

submissions so far there is little appetite for nationally imposed structural change through legislation.

One thing is clear is that there was **no consistent request for Welsh Government to merge or abolish partnerships**. No-one proposed that any of these partnerships were not important, but responses focused on the resources required to maintain them or their effectiveness. The growth of partnerships in the past two decades coupled with the increasingly stretched resources of public services has meant that servicing these partnerships well and maximising impact has proven difficult. The dilemma, then, is satisfying both the need for, and benefit from, these partnerships against the pressure of doing more with less. Perhaps inevitably, there was not a consistent solution to this dilemma.

Perhaps most telling was the **consistent finding that a culture of collaboration and collegiate working developed locally was viewed as more important and powerful than rearranging geographical boundaries**. The general view is that collaboration is happening to an extent but constrained by meeting the needs of the perceived lead or primary organisation first. Sometimes the issue of sovereignty was raised, particularly in respect of decisions around funding or accountability with partnerships seen as blurring responsibility for decision-making. Requiring people to work in a partnership does not necessarily lead to effective co-working, but it is a start. Despite decades of partnership working, there remains a need to develop the collegiate culture within organisations, beginning with the leaders, across public, private and third sector services.

It was clear that **in different parts of Wales, some solutions have already been sought to simplifying the partnership landscape**, capitalising on the flexibilities in the requirements of these partnerships and – usually – existing productive relationships. Given the range of views on the optimal solutions, the opportunities to use those flexibilities and the general resistance to a nationally-imposed restructure, this review has sought to focus its recommendations on the pragmatic i.e. what can be done rather than what could be done in a more perfect situation.

This report should be viewed as taking reasonable steps, based on the evidence of successful ‘self-improvement’, to work with the leaders in the system to improve the efficacy and visibility of partnership working and develop a collegiate working culture in public services.

Background

The complexity of the strategic partnership landscape in Wales is an issue which is raised frequently and has been consistently highlighted in independent reviews of Welsh public services over several decades.

Beyond Boundaries: Citizen-Centred Local Services for Wales (Beecham et al, 2006) noted that two critical success factors to more effective public services were partnership and citizen engagement. It also noted that whilst changing structures of public services wouldn't, by itself, achieve the changes in cultures needed, that it shouldn't mean that structures should not change to tackle capacity constraints and share expertise across areas and sectors. It noted that partnership is difficult and needs the investment of time, resources and leadership, but that it has a key role to play in delivering significant improvements in services. To achieve this, the whole architecture of public services, and the culture, skills and behaviours of those who work in them, needed to be made more conducive to shared delivery.

Local, Regional, National: What services are best delivered where? (Simpson et al, 2011) made 21 recommendations on how local government services could best be delivered, with a heavy focus on collaboration between councils. This review led to the signing of the Compact for Change between the Welsh Government and Welsh local government in December 2011. This was intended to provide a route map for new ways of organising public services with the aim of formalising a partnership approach across a range of council services, and to standardise collaboration in order to improve delivery and outcomes.

The *Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery* (Williams et al, 2014) came to the view that whilst collaboration and partnership working can have the potential to overcome some of these problems, the way in which it had been implemented had often compounded them. It felt that governance of partnerships needed to be clearer and stronger, with a sharper set of priorities, plans and outcomes. It concluded that local partnership structures must be radically streamlined and made more effective. Their conclusion was that the-then local service boards should take responsibility for maintaining a single register of local partnerships and local partnership structures.

Since those reviews, new partnerships have been established and it is not clear to what extent actions were taken to address actions from previous reports on the complexity, and importance, of partnership working. Consequently, many public service and third sector partners are engaged in several partnerships covering a range of issues, priorities or themes.

Other reviews of Wales' strategic partnerships

This review sought to ensure that there was no duplication of other reviews into existing or new partnerships proposals, or where changes to current partnerships were planned, that this was taken into account during this review. Desk research noted the following work either under way or recently complete:

Working Group on Local Government

A Working Group on Local Government was established in 2018 as part of an agreement between Welsh Government and local government to design and define together, the future of local government in Wales. Its core task was to develop a shared agenda for reform which ensures the sustainability of local service provision through appropriate structures and processes – whether collaboration, shared services or voluntary mergers

It was clear from the conversations within the Working Group, and mapping work undertaken by local government, that there was already a significant amount of collaborative partnership working on both a voluntary and statutory basis throughout Wales.

However, there was a recognition within the Working Group that this landscape was complex and this complexity was potentially limiting the effectiveness and efficiency of these arrangements.

The Working Group on Local Government considered emerging work on mapping partnerships and there was an appetite for further work to be undertaken to review the partnership landscape –which led to the commissioning of Review of Strategic Partnerships set out in this report.

Regional Skills Partnerships

In October 2019, the National Assembly for Wales' Economic, Infrastructure and Skills Committee published an inquiry into Regional Skills Partnerships, investigating how well the partnerships identify and reflect employer demand for skills. The recommendations were designed to give the partnerships a clear, strategic mission with a strong focus on identifying and breaking low-skill traps. [[Report](#) and [Welsh Government response](#)]

Regional Partnership Boards

Work is planned by the Welsh Government to review the Regional Partnership Board experience and frame recommendations for Ministers on the future of integrated working in Wales.

In February 2020, a Regional Partnership Board learning event reflected on lessons learned from developing partnerships in their area.

A Self-Assessment Tool has been developed with stakeholders to help RPBs reflect and understand their progress, identify strengths and successes of the Partnership, whilst also highlighting opportunities for improvement. A Pilot of the Tool was due to commence with two RPBs in March 2020 but has now been delayed due to Covid-19.

The Children's Commissioner for Wales' office have undertaken a project this year which analysed the effectiveness of Regional Partnership Boards. They visited each RPB, challenging all of the boards to make sure that they are prioritising the needs of children and young people with complex needs through disability or illness (which includes mental illness) and ensuring they get the best possible care.

Public Service Boards

In October 2019, the Wales Audit Office published their review of Public Services Boards. The review concluded that PSBs are unlikely to realise their potential unless they are given the freedom to work more flexibly and think and act differently. They also noted that, generally, PSBs are *engaging with citizens, but are not involving them* in their work and that despite public bodies valuing PSBs, there is no agreement on how their role should evolve.

It recommended the Welsh Government enables PSBs to develop flexible models of working including merging, reducing and integrating their work with other forums such as Regional Partnership Boards. It also recommended that Welsh Government gives PSBs flexibility to receive, manage and spend grant monies (subject to PSBs ensuring they have adequate safeguards and appropriate scrutiny systems in place.)

Finally, the report made a recommendation that it should take account of, and explore, the findings of this review.

A Framework for Regional Investment in Wales

There is a live public consultation which sets out the Welsh Government's thinking on the future of regional investment outside the European Union, developed working closely with our partners. It covers a set of proposals for investing replacement funding from the UK Government in a national framework that is underpinned by investments targeted and managed regionally. The consultation closes on 22 May 2020.

Emerging Arrangements across Regional Partnership and Public Services Boards

PSBs and RPBs which cover different but overlapping regional and local footprints, and different but related priorities, particularly in the areas of health, care and wellbeing. Local and regional partners across Wales have been working hard to develop various operating arrangements for the Boards which help them secure the most effective use of their time and expertise in improving outcomes for people in Wales.

In March 2019, Professor Keith Moultrie considered the relationship between RPBs and PSBs in a workshop of leaders from PSBs and RPBs sponsored by the Welsh Government.

Regional review of partnership working - Gwent

The Gwent group of public service leaders and chief officers (G10) seeks to lead on "strategic, long term planning" planning while PSBs deliver the local detail. The Gwent Strategic Wellbeing Assessment Group (GSWAG) brings together public service professionals from five local authorities, Police, Health and other partners such as NRW and WLGA as a self-supporting hub for peer-to-peer learning and networking. The group was initially formed to work together to produce well-being assessments using a unified approach and has since evolved into a highly-valued peer sharing support forum for regional well-being issues.

Regional review of partnership working – North Wales

In 2019, the North Wales Partnership Task and Finish Group were tasked with looking at the current North Wales regional partnership structures from a safeguarding and community safety perspective. As a result of their findings, eight partnerships will be reduced to five, with the CONTEST board remaining for the time being.

Other local and regional partnerships have undertaken similar reviews. Whilst national reviews tend to identify common themes, barriers or opportunities usually relating to the national financial, policy or statutory framework, locally driven and negotiated reviews may have a better opportunity to change the performance or behaviours of partnerships and their member organisations. It is therefore important that the Welsh Government provides sufficient local empowerment and flexibility

METHODOLOGY

In January 2019, the Working Group on Local Government, chaired by Derek Vaughan, noted that the number of strategic partnerships in Wales – often apparently including the same member bodies – creates a feeling that existing resources are required to be stretched even more thinly. This raised questions over the efficacy of the partnership landscape and whether, collectively, something could be done to simplify this.

Subsequently, the Welsh Government and WLGA agreed to undertake a review of strategic partnerships, seeking to incorporate the observations of the wider reviews. The review's aim was to consider the broad partnership landscape and collectively identify the key areas where there was felt to be unnecessary complexity or duplication, working with partners to identify opportunities for simplification and rationalisation in a focused and pragmatic way. The review sought to identify:

- Action which could be taken immediately by the relevant partnerships to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment;
- Action the Welsh Government could take immediately to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment;
- Action which would require legislative change through the Local Government and Elections Bill.

Phase One – Call for evidence

The first phase of the review involved a call for written evidence (**Annex A**) from a broad range of public service leaders and chairs of partnerships along with a desk-based analysis of existing partnership reviews. This took place in the Summer and Autumn of 2019 and 33 responses were received from across:

- Principal Councils
- Local Health Board
- Other public sector bodies
- Inspection / audit services
- Third sector representatives

The full list of respondents can be found at **Annex B**. The review team also met separately with the members of the Welsh NHS Confederation, the Children's Commissioner for Wales, local authority Heads of Policy and Community Housing Cymru to seek their views.

An interim report was considered at Partnership Council for Wales on 2 October 2019¹. The key issues raised were:

- The problem of 'too many partnerships' and 'too many meetings', particularly from those organisations that attend multiple partnerships in a given region e.g. Fire & Rescue Services, Police Services and Natural Resources Wales. This can lead to repeated conversations across multiple footprints.

¹ Partnership Council for Wales – [Papers](#) – 2 October 2019

Organisations are concerned that they do not have sufficient capacity to fully support the existing system of arrangements.

- Despite the broad scope of the call for evidence, a number of responses focused specifically on the Public Service Boards (PSBs) and Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs). For instance, there appear to be differing views on the distinction and overlap of interest of these boards.
- A majority of responses commented that PSBs could be more effective if they had their own funding as some other partnerships do. They noted that their view is that the concept of pooled budgets is not generally happening in practice. The funding of policies in government departmental silos is seen by local government as promoting the proliferation of partnerships and shifting accountability from local communities to Welsh Government.
- Many of the current partnerships exist either through legislation or to manage a grant-funded programme of work. The discrete nature of these usually leads to discrete – and unconnected - partnerships which can lead to additional bureaucracy through separate secretariat arrangements.
- With respect to improving the partnership landscape generally, there were a number of suggestions, but no consensus.
- It is clear that the possible solutions, e.g. around pooling funding and determining footprints, are within the ambit of the current partnerships. Based on the submissions so far there is little appetite for nationally imposed structural change through legislation.

The prevailing findings from this exercise was that there was no consistent view on how to create a simpler partnership landscape and no support for a legislative solution.

At that meeting, the Partnership Council for Wales agreed that the review team would test further hypotheses for rationalising partnerships in to provide practical recommendations for a future Partnership Council meeting.

Phase Two – Testing emerging hypotheses

The review team adapted the ‘priority review’ methodology² to develop the approach to fieldwork.

Firstly, information from the initial call for evidence was used to develop a definition of strategic partnerships along with a list of strategic partnerships in scope.

Secondly, the purpose and basis for these partnerships was determined in order to provide clarity as to whether the partnerships were established through legislation, funding or other means.

² Deliverology 101, Barber et al (2011)

Thirdly, from this evidence, a number of initial hypotheses were developed covering the known problems and most likely solutions. These hypotheses formed the basis of semi-structured interview questions which were put to a range of relevant stakeholders through field work interviews. The interview candidates were selected to provide:

- Sufficient coverage of sectors included in partnership working
- Balance of sectors and perspectives to account for potential biases
- Coverage to ensure that key areas of Partnership Council contribute
- Sufficient evidence to triangulate findings and provide assurance of recommendations
- Availability within the interview timeframe.

Individuals were interviewed by teams of two (from different public services) and face-to-face, where possible. Interviewees were assured that individual comments would not be identifiable in the final report.

Further discussions were held with stakeholder forums, including the Partnership Council Local Government Sub Group in March 2020.

Responses from the fieldwork were analysed and synthesised under the broad headings of the questions i.e. the opportunities for aligning existing partnerships, the barriers (actual or perceived) to aligning partnerships and how we might measure the success of changes to the partnership landscape.

DEFINITION

Initial written submissions clarified what stakeholders considered to be the definition and scope of strategic partnerships to be included in this review. The following definition of strategic partnerships below was adopted for the review:

A partnership of decision-makers across the public services (including third and private sector partners) tasked with collaboratively connecting and delivering a policy or strategy of high strategic importance.

The partnership approach is required by Welsh and/or UK Government through legislation, policy or grants administration processes.

The fieldwork demonstrated consistently that stakeholders felt that there were two types of strategic partnership: the first being **multi-purpose, high-level boards** with long term goals and objectives, and the second being **single-purpose policy boards** focused on issues of strategic importance, for which a partnership approach was appropriate. Although 'single-purpose' partnerships typically focus on a range of complex matters, they have been described as 'single-purpose' as they tend to have a specific policy, programme or thematic focus. Interviews fed back that the current multi-purpose boards had relatively clear purposes i.e. well-being and place-based services (Public Services Boards) and health & social care (Regional Partnership Boards).

It was also noted that there was a natural strategic partnership for economic issues (City Deals, Growth or Ambition Boards), although issues relating to these partnerships were rarely raised in discussions or submissions.

From the fieldwork, the partnerships in scope have been categorised as below:

Strategic Partnerships (multi-purpose)

- Public Services Board
- Regional Partnership Board
- City Deals / Growth/Ambition Board

Strategic Policy Partnerships (single-purpose)

- Community Safety Partnership
- Adult's Safeguarding Partnership
- Children's Safeguarding Partnership
- Regional Skills Partnership
- Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group
- Area Planning Board (substance misuse)
- VAWDA SV Partnerships
- Mental Health Partnerships

Single sector collaborations or joint services e.g. school improvement consortia or the proposed Corporate Joint Committees were not in scope for this review.

The partnerships are established on a range of bases and are not always dependent on legislation. **Annex C** outlines the mechanisms by which each partnership has been established, their purpose, membership and area footprint. It is a well known feature that the partnership landscape is complex, with a range of area footprints represented i.e.:

- Principal Councils
- Local Health Boards
- Economic regions
- Fire & Rescue Services
- Police Forces

ALIGNMENT OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

This review was not remitted to investigate the scope, governance, membership or performance of individual partnership arrangements. It is how these partnerships best fit together under existing arrangements which is the purpose of the review.

In summary, many felt that closer alignment and connections between partnerships were sensible, but there remains no consensus on what an ideal structure would be. It was clear that a top-down restructure was not desirable, largely as it might damage successful solutions already happening in some areas.

A number of interviews observed that these strategic partnerships were established over a 20 year period by different Ministers and administrations, and – they believed – without adequate regard to acknowledging existing partnerships. Subsequently, a significant number of interviews noted that the current partnership landscape was siloed and there was a general lack of connection or inter-relationship between the partnerships. Although some work had taken place to align partnerships in some areas, this generally was not the case.

Stakeholders also reflected that different area footprints for different portfolios complicated matters. This has been a consistent issue of complexity identified in several previous reviews, as police forces, fire & rescue services, health boards and principal councils are not on the same area footprints. However, interviewees generally commented that policy alignment is more important than area alignment i.e. that having good links between partnerships of overlapping interests (e.g. relating to community safety) was more important than aligning all partnerships on the same area footprint. This theme relates to ownership. The greater the role partners play in establishing and managing the partnership, the greater the “buy-in” to the partnership. The City Deal and Growth Partnerships illustrate this principle.

A number of options for partnership alignment were raised during the review. The views varied by sector and by region, suggesting that there are several options rather than an optimal one, and that the most pragmatic solution may depend on local arrangements and existing relationships. No option was given more than once. Possibilities raised by interviewees for better aligned partnerships included:

- Community Safety Partnerships, VAWDASV and Safeguarding – could group together or connect their work
- Community Safety Partnerships could report to PSBs (and do so in at least some areas)
- Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) partnerships – although these partnerships should continue to work regionally on an RPB footprint, different respondents suggested they could report via PSBs or RPBs.
- There was an example of safeguarding boards being managed through the RPB (although the RPB did not have scrutiny arrangements through local government).
- There were comments around missed opportunities for alignments by not having police membership on the Regional Partnership Boards, for instance, to support joining up to support mental health in an area.

- There were comments around missed opportunities in not joining up Area Planning Boards (substance misuse) and VAWDASV partnerships as these often impact the same groups of people.

There were concerns expressed by some in the community safety and policing sectors that they sought closer engagement in partnerships involving health and social care partners. This was reported as impacting on the adoption of a more “social” model of policing based on learning from the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences and a redefinition of crime to include exploitation and grooming of vulnerable people.

It was noted that alignment of partnerships need not be a permanent re-alignment, but could be based on current priorities. Therefore, some local flexibility is sensible. For instance, one interviewee noted that policing currently has four pressing strategic challenges which drive the front line experience that police have to respond to i.e.:

- Mental health
- Substance misuse
- Adverse childhood experiences
- Domestic violence and abuse

If all the strategic partnerships were able to align in such a way that these drivers could be met by all of the relevant partnerships working together, there could be a significant impact on the front line. The review team recognises that these priorities may change in 5-10 years and the option to re-align again could be a strength. A permanent, legislated solution could hamstring such responsiveness.

Some stakeholders commented that it is not always evident whether and how these boards connect. Reporting lines or merged boards are not always necessary, but if the partnerships were connected in some way, such as through common members (people, not organisations), updates or formal reporting lines, then the partnerships and the public could have confidence that partnerships are joined up, not duplicating efforts and working towards common aims.

There are examples of instances where areas have already taken the initiative to rationalise the working of these partnerships. One example is the North Wales Leadership Board. A task and finish group reviewed the North Wales regional partnership structures from a Safeguarding and Community Safety perspective, in order to ensure that complex and cross-cutting issues could be managed in an effective way by partnerships across the region. It was felt that the signs and symptoms of specific issues may manifest themselves across a number of partnerships, without any one partnership having a clear view of the bigger, joined-up picture. The Board decided to reform eight partnerships into five, more strategic partnerships, initially with the intention to have four eventually. The new boards link into the Adult and Children Safeguarding boards and they are exploring the potential of the North Wales Adults and Children’s Safeguarding Partnerships merging.

In Gwent, the G10 leaders group and GSWAG operational group provide a means of joining up the activities across the constituent PSBs. The Chairs / Leaders and Chief Executives of the statutory members of the five PSBs in Gwent, along with the Chief Constable and Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent, form a regional group called

G10. G10 is supported by nominated officers from their organisations (GSWAG) who work to identify and deliver common well-being objectives at a regional level and reduce duplication. This way of working also draws in external funding only available at a regional level.

In addition to the partnerships above, there were significant responses commenting on the relationship between Public Services Boards (PSBs) and Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs). Responses noted that these were two strategic boards focussed on (different, but inter-related aspects of) well-being, sometimes with an unclear operational relationship, which made the landscape more complex for some. Both have statutory bases and statutory requirements to fulfil, although it was noted that RPBs also serve significant operational purposes – the management of the Integrated Care Fund and Transformation Fund from Welsh Government. Substantial grant funds have been made available over several years and in future years RPBs will be funded to deliver a Healthier Wales and related change programmes. The PSBs do not have an equivalent operational role.

Interviews noted that the purposes for these boards were largely distinct – albeit with an overlap in care and support – and the membership varied (both by sector and seniority). Some felt that the RPB had become more operational in nature as it has responsibility for managing the Integrated Care Fund and Transformation Fund. Some reflected that the PSB had, in principle, a more strategic perspective as it looked at a broad range of public services across a place, including social services. However, others reflected that, in practice, RPBs had significant funds to manage and were seen as a more powerful, and quicker, vehicle for effecting action. Some expressed a desire for some of the money which was spent by RPBs to be spent by PSBs where the activities were more preventative in nature (

A minority of interviews suggested that a ‘strategic leaders’ board’ consisting of the most senior leaders from across the public services (with representation from the third and private sectors) could oversee all of these partnerships – mobilising operational partnerships as required. This would appear to be a modification of the North Wales and Gwent solutions. Reporting lines could then be clearer. However, under current legislation, this cannot be achieved and the existing PSB and RPB requirements would still need to be met, thus adding an additional layer of senior leaders’ meetings. It is not clear whether this would be supported across the public services. This would be a substantial undertaking, could create another partnership tier and would need further exploration. As proposals would likely impact on legislation, a Green or White paper would be needed to formally consult on such changes. It was not achievable via legislation in the short-term, but could be developed informally on a regional basis if partners were in agreement.

In Spring 2019, Professor Keith Moultrie (Institute of Public Care) reported on a workshop relating to emerging arrangements across Regional Partnership and Public Services Boards. His observations from that event included that:

- There is no desire for further legislation or guidance in this area
- Further joint working between the Welsh Government teams responsible for supporting RPBs and PSBs will be essential, and activities which they may want to undertake together in the next period include:

- i. Default position of joint communications from the teams to both PSBs and RPBs about issues relevant to both or either;
- ii. Regular liaison meetings between the teams to note developments and changes with both Boards;
- iii. Further occasional events to bring together partners from across Wales to share learning and different approaches that work.

Following that workshop and Professor Moultrie's report, the deputy minister for Housing and Local Government and the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services issued a joint letter to Chairs of these boards (**Annex D**).

An infographic has been co-developed outlining the responsibilities and relationships between the two boards (**Annex E**). The Welsh Government is also working together to align the processes for assessments of population needs and of local well-being – with a joint PSB and RPB workshop on this theme planned. Next steps will include alignment of board support and regular meetings of all Chairs of PSBs and RPBs.

BARRIERS TO ALIGNING AND RATIONALISING PARTNERSHIPS

Given the range of options available to rationalising partnerships, and the instances where it had happened, it is important to consider why this wasn't more commonplace.

Interviews revealed a range of reasons why partnerships may not have realigned locally. In most cases, a combination of these applied. At a local level, feedback suggested rationalisation could be constrained by:

- Lack of awareness of options
- Risk aversion to change in case it proved less effective
- Lack of enthusiasm from relevant partners – particularly in contributing towards pooled funding
- Complexities due to overlapping area partnership footprints
- Complexities due to differing priorities of boards in terms of actions
- Concern the purpose of more specific policy partnerships might get side-lined in any merged partnerships. There was some reluctance to allow what might be seen as a power grab or takeover
- Concern that some partners (e.g. third sector, citizens might get pushed to side-lines in a bigger board) where 'bigger hitters' dominate
- Size of new partnerships/board may be prohibitive to effective working if all members transferred
- Purpose of new boards may be confused and complex with a mixture of strategic and operational purposes
- Recognition that proposal may push meetings into sub-groups, which could create more meetings overall.

However, across the interviews, **the key perceived barrier to successful partnership working is cultural**. That is, that working at partnerships is less effective where partners retain their siloed interests and find it hard to pool budgets and resources to support the partnership. Counter to that, the most successful examples of working across partnerships to simplify the administrative and delivery burden is where organisations are able to demonstrate leadership in putting the broader public service interest ahead of their own organisational interest – although in reality, it might be expected that these should broadly be the same.

Where additional money is provided to a partnership to support delivery, this can make it easier to work on collective aims (e.g. in the RPB). However, this slightly goes against the principle of joining up and pooling resources to meet mutual policy needs. Giving the partnership additional money does not incentivise changing this behaviour and could undermine partnership commitment if partners do not need to re-prioritise local resources but instead allocate national resources. In terms of the PSB, flexibility exists to use existing grant monies allocated to one of the public bodies within the PSB, provided it contributes towards the well-being objectives. However, this would appear not to happen as much as stakeholders believe it could. The review was made aware that some grants are given on a principal council basis, with some competition for that funding. In those cases, this does not necessarily reward joint working across a region in a PSB area.

It was reported in terms of **third sector representatives across these partnerships, that they may not be sufficiently supported to provide strategic input and insight** across them most effectively. This could be led by the Third Sector Partnership Council. The Third Sector Partnership Council and coordinated by County Voluntary Councils.

Overall, there was **no general support for a national restructure of partnerships**, largely due to the reasons given above. Also, there was no support for any particular partnership to be stood down. In addition, it was felt that local leadership was best placed to determine what would work best in their area. A locally-led approach was also felt to be more likely to have collective buy-in.

A minority of interviewees felt the Welsh Government could take a significant step by making fundamental changes to portfolio footprints and the partnership landscape to simplify delivery. However, this is likely to require considerable political, administrative, legislative and financial costs given few of the partnerships were statutory. This would require much further work of the scale of the Williams and Beecham Reviews.

Partnerships therefore need maximum local flexibility and proportionate governance and regulation to allow them to focus on outcomes and a smaller number of priorities. This would enable the partners to play a greater role in determining how to deliver outcomes and to work together in ways more suited to their capability and capacity.

That said, there is an acceptance that merely leaving things as they are is not a proactive way to rationalise partnerships. The appetite from some partners is that the Welsh Government could encourage and incentivise changes so long as it did not require particular structures.

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF PARTNERSHIPS

The focus of the review was to consider the alignment of partnerships and any actions to improve alignment or rationalise partnerships where necessary. Governance and accountability arrangements are a key features in the alignment or rationalisation of partnerships. It was important to note that wider, more in-depth work was ongoing during this period, notably the Wales Audit Office study of PSBs and the work around the relationship of PSBs and RPBs.

Contributions and evidence however considered governance and wider factors affecting the effectiveness of partnerships. Although these are not all necessarily within the scope of this review and are being considered in other reviews, they have been included here for completeness.

Feedback suggested that a reduction in the burden of meetings (in terms of meetings, travel and preparation of papers), resultant cost (and opportunity cost) savings, better outcomes for relevant policy areas, better connected partnership landscape and improved citizen visibility of their work.

Links between Partnerships

Some interviews noted that if the partnerships were better connected – and were *seen* to be more connected – this could provide assurance of appropriate join-up and remove concerns of duplication. Interviewees who were members of some partnerships, but not others, often felt unsighted on work happening elsewhere, even if there were clear links. This made it harder for them to usefully and strategically contribute or join-up as they were not fully aware of the full picture across partnerships. A case in point might be that members of the Area Planning Boards may wish to be clearer on activities in the Mental Health Partnerships or VAWDASV partnerships given the overlap in interests.

Interviews generally made the point that **form should follow function**. Whilst reducing meetings and bureaucracy is an important aim, the primary focus must be on delivering better outcomes. In a similar vein, it was important that the partnership did added value to the policy areas, and did not just meet because it was required to do so. This meant the right level and number of delegates needed to attend to allow effective decision-making. The review explored whether any suitable (and non-bureaucratic) metrics might reveal this information.

Meetings

Measuring the numbers of meetings and attendees would not provide intelligence on whether partnerships had simplified. It could be that more meetings are occurring in future, but shorter, more effective meetings with officers of appropriate level. Also, it is relatively easy to achieve the aim of fewer meetings but it does not follow that this will lead to better outcomes.

Partnership culture

One of the dominant themes throughout stakeholder interviews in particular was that the culture has a significant impact on partnership working. Whilst many are content with a degree of partnership working, in the main, organisational sovereignty of decisions and funding still trumps genuine joint working. Some of this is procedural i.e. the need to account for how an organisation's budget is being used to meet an organisational objective, or where the best scrutiny lies (e.g. with local democracy or Ministerial reporting). However, a significant amount of the reluctance is down to personal leadership. Partnership working is challenging, especially in a culture of silo working and different sets of accountabilities. Culture has been identified in several studies of partnerships from Beecham to Williams. Various approaches have been adopted to try to develop and embed a culture of collective leadership, including guidance, principles, training and development and legislation, most notably the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Collective Accountability

In a similar vein, some interviewees and submissions noted that we should look at the collective accountabilities in these organisations. That is, organisations feel that they are held to account through a mixture of long-term collective accountabilities as well as short-term organisational measures through grants or in-year performance. It was felt that this provided mixed motivations for organisations who will usually prioritise the shorter term measures as they are more valued by scrutiny committees or Welsh Government. Similarly, despite the Well-being of Future Generations Act, arguably society and some public services continue to place greater focus on remedies rather than preventions – which is harder to measure. More intelligent forms of accountability could further help these organisations and partnerships to show how they are benefiting their communities. It was noted that the ways in which the partnerships are measured will influence the behaviours and culture of partnerships and their leaders.

On the part of local government, many respondents commented that the regional nature of several strategic partnerships introduced by the Welsh Government, allied to the several attempts at local government reform, had led to concerns around the undermining of democratic local accountability and this was further affected by a lack of clarity given the complex pattern of partnerships, which impacted on scrutiny.

Prescription and Proportionate Regulation

The contributions of regulators to the review often focussed on their concerns regarding the effectiveness of the partnerships under review. They emphasised the need for a better definition of outcomes being sought from partnerships and questioned whether partnerships are giving sufficient consideration to how they perform. There was a perception from some that **partnerships, particularly those long-established or set-up by Welsh Government policy or statute, can be seen to become ends in themselves, rather than a means to an end.**

Administration and regulation become disproportionately burdensome, diverting energy and resources from delivering outcomes.

Many of those responsible for coordinating or supporting the partnerships feel there is over-regulation and too much prescription; the opportunities and value of local flexibility is undermined due to burdens from regulators or the expectations or national priorities of Welsh Government. Much complexity arises from detailed

regulations and reporting requirements placed on multiple organisations and improvements could be achieved by relaxing the detail and scope. This would enable a greater focus on outcomes and fewer priorities which would aid decision-making and effectiveness.

Membership

Some interviewees and submissions raised specific concerns over the **membership – or lack thereof – on certain partnerships**. There was a particular appetite from some to be included on PSBs or RPBs with rationale provided. However, interviews also noted that the subsequent size of the board could make it unmanageable and less strategic in nature. Although, in some cases, legislation sets out the core membership of partnerships, it should be a matter for local discretion to review and if necessary extend membership as appropriate.

Organisational consistency within partnership working is also an issue– with scope for different representatives from an organisation turning up to different meetings of a partnership; and different representatives sitting on different partnerships. Both can make it difficult to ensure consistent approaches are adopted on issues.

Citizen Awareness and Involvement

There was a general recognition of the need to improve citizen engagement in and understanding of partnerships. Interviewees noted that it was not clear in all partnerships where the citizen voice was valued or sought. It followed that citizen understanding of, at least some of these partnerships is, probably limited. Although citizens tended to be engaged or involved more through constituent public services, transparency of the work of partnerships was desired, as was clarity of purpose and impact. It was suggested that the partnerships should individually self-assess whether they could improve their citizen engagement and respond accordingly. This is entirely consistent with the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations have been grouped under four key themes which emerged during the review. Where the owner is not named, the review team believes that a collective effort is needed to achieve the key outcomes of rationalising and simplifying the partnership landscape.

Theme A: Clarifying the strategic partnership landscape

It is important to consider the existing strategic partnership landscape whenever new requirements for public services to work in partnerships emerge – to ensure that no unnecessary complexity, or duplication of activity, is added.

Recommendation 1. No new partnerships should be established or required without referring to the existing landscape or considering whether an existing partnership can deliver the outcome required.

Recommendation 2. No new functions should be given to existing partnerships without considering what obligations can be reviewed or removed or what additional resources may be required.

Recommendation 3. Welsh Government considers whether departments can reduce the partnership arrangements set up to administer specific grant programmes.

Theme B: Making use of flexibilities to provide local solutions to aligning partnerships

The review has demonstrated throughout that there is no consensus on the optimal way of rationalising partnerships. Indeed, there were few consistent views. The optimal solution appears to be whatever works best in a given region based on local priorities and existing relationships. A legislative solution to rationalising partnerships at this stage, would be disproportionate and have limited impact given few of the partnerships have a statutory basis but that all partners should prioritise finding their own solutions.

Recommendation 4. Welsh Government to write to Chairs of all partnerships to clarify and confirm that flexibilities exist to for partnerships to review their own arrangements and alignment as appropriate – in terms of policy and geography

Recommendation 5. All strategic partnerships in an area should seek to play an active role to ensure that they are aligned more closely so that there are fewer partnerships. The multi-purpose strategic partnerships (such as PSBs and RPBs) have a natural leadership role in initiating this.

Recommendation 6. Welsh Government to provide offer of facilitation for partnerships to review how they are aligned on their footprints.

Recommendation 7. Welsh Government to explore and communicate how funding might best be distributed across strategic partnerships where it may be sensible to do so and to consider the capacity of partners to support these partnerships.

Recommendation 8. All strategic partnerships should commit to, and invest in, board development and the development of collaborative cultures throughout the constituent organisations.

Theme C: Making the work and impact of partnerships clear

Citizens and those with a responsibility to represent citizens and scrutinise the work of public services, have a right to understand how public services and any partnerships are serving them.

Recommendation 9. All strategic partnerships should publish basic information online, which is easily accessible outlining terms of reference, vision, membership, reporting on outcomes/progress and how citizens or communities can get involved..

Theme D: Periodic Proportionate Review

Partnerships should take a lead role in finding their own solutions, with the offer of facilitation and training to support changes. Most partnerships report on the delivery of objectives or outcomes and many produce annual reports and many already periodically self-review the continued relevance of their governance arrangements.

The Partnership Council, with representatives from public services who work together through a range of partnerships, is well placed to refer matters of concern from local or regional partnerships for the attention of Welsh Ministers.

Recommendation 10. As part of the normal cycle of review and reporting, all strategic partnerships should seek to build in periodic reviews of their terms of reference, governance arrangements, membership and alignment to other groups or partnerships.

Recommendation 11. Partnership Council to periodically review the partnership landscape to consider whether, when and where Welsh Government policy or legislative change may be required.

ANNEX A – JOINT LETTER FROM THE LEADER OF THE WLGA AND THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

To: Leaders of Local Authorities
Chairs of Public Bodies
Chief Executives of Public Bodies

13 June 2019

Dear colleague,

Review of Strategic Partnerships

We believe the time is right to undertake a review of the strategic partnership landscape in Wales – working together to identify the key areas where there is felt to be unnecessary complexity or duplication and to identify opportunities for simplification and rationalisation.

The review will seek to identify:

- Action which can be taken immediately by the relevant partnerships to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment
- Action the Welsh Government can take immediately to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment
- Action which would require legislative change

This is something which should be done in partnership, with those who are involved in strategic partnerships or have an interest in the effective and impact of these partnerships.

As a first step we are keen to get a view from you, as the people directly involved in these partnership arrangements, on where we should target our attention. What do

you see as the main challenges, and opportunities for simplification and rationalisation?

We are conscious that many areas have already conducted local reviews of their partnership arrangements, or fed into wider national reviews such as that undertaken on community safety, and would welcome any insight you have gained from these reviews – both in terms of key areas to look at and action already taken locally to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment that other areas could learn from. We are aware that other national reviews of specific partnership arrangements are currently being undertaken and these will feed into our review.

The review will be undertaken as a proportionate and pragmatic task and finish piece of work, rather than a lengthy exercise – taking around six months from instigation to completion.

We would welcome any views you have **by 5 July**. We are then envisaging a period of targeted engagement over the summer before providing a final report with recommendations to the meeting of the Partnership Council for Wales on 2 October.

I attach the terms of reference for information.

If you would like to discuss the review please contact claire.germain@gov.wales or stephen.jones@wlga.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Debbie Wilcox
Leader of the WLGA



Julie James AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local Government

TERMS OF REFERENCE

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURES –TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background:

1. The Working Group on Local Government considered emerging work on mapping partnerships at its meeting on 25 January and there was an appetite for further work to be undertaken to review the partnership landscape. The perception of a crowded partnership landscape has also consistently been raised with Minister for Housing and Local Government.

2. The timing of the review will inform the development of regional working proposals for the Local Government and Elections Bill. Undertaking the review will include consultation with local authorities and their partners on a regional basis to gather evidence on what does and does not work in terms of strategic partnership arrangements and the extent to which the strategic partnership landscape should be streamlined.

Purpose of the review:

3. The purpose of the review will be to review the partnership landscape and consider whether there is any unnecessary complexity or duplication; and identify opportunities for simplification and rationalisation.

4. The objectives would be to

- Identify key partnership arrangements where there are felt to be overlapping remits.
 - o Consider whether the purposes for which these partnership arrangements were established remain valid;
 - o Consider whether the mechanisms for achieving these purposes (and supporting arrangements) remain appropriate or could be achieved in a more efficient / effective way
 - o Consider what governance and accountability arrangements are required
- Make recommendations on:
 - o Practical action which can be taken immediately by the relevant partnerships to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment within the current legislative framework
 - o Action the Welsh Government can take immediately to rationalise partnerships/improve alignment within the current legislative framework
 - o Any aspects which would require legislative change

Scope of the review:

5. The focus of the review will be on “strategic partnerships”. An initial task for the review will be to agree a definition of a strategic partnership.

6. The review will take account of other nationally commissioned reviews of specific partnerships, for example:

- The OECD Multi-Level Governance Review, which has been commissioned to inform the implementation of the ‘Economic Action Plan’ as part of ‘Prosperity for All’ and the development of the replacement regional investment approach to replace EU Structural Funds post-Brexit.
- Independent Review of the Regional Skills Partnerships
- WAO local government study on Public Services Boards and the effectiveness of partnership working
- Joint inspectorate work on the progress of new local models of health and social care, and the effectiveness of Regional Partnership Board joint working

Approach:

7. The review will be undertaken as a shared endeavour with local government

8. It is broadly envisaged that, to inform its considerations, the review would need to:

- Gather evidence about partnership arrangements, and how they currently operate / align (including taking stock of reviews of regional arrangements which have already taken place)
- Engage with those involved in the partnership arrangements to seek their views
- Engage others with an interest as to the effectiveness and impact of these partnerships
- Engage the relevant Ministers and policy officials with an interest in each partnership to seek their views

9. Engagement could take the form of a series of regional events, similar to those undertaken in 2016 which informed the Resilient and Renewed White Paper, as well as individual interviews with Leaders, Ministers and others involved in/with an interest in the partnership arrangements being explored.

Governance:

10. A joint secretariat will be formed comprising of Welsh Government and WLGA officials to oversee the work. Additional support for evidence gathering and engagement will be secured from within local government as well as the Welsh Government.

11. The review will report to the Partnership Council for Wales, with an update on progress to the meeting on 12 June and final report to the meeting on 2 October.

Timescales:

12. It is envisaged that the review would be undertaken as a proportionate/pragmatic task and finish piece of work, rather than lengthy exercise – taking around six months from instigation to completion.

ANNEX B - REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS – EVIDENCE GATHERED

Call for evidence – Written Responses – July 2019

- Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
- Caerphilly County Borough Council
- Cardiff Public Services Board (council and partners)
- Carmarthenshire County Council
- Ceredigion County Council
- Conwy County Borough Council
- Denbighshire County Council
- Gwynedd Council
- Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
- Neath Port Talbot County Council
- Torfaen County Borough Council
- Vale of Glamorgan Council
- Hywel Dda Health Board
- Velindre Trust Health Board
- Public Health Wales
- North Wales RPB
- Gwent APB
- Mid and West Wales Fire Service
- South Wales Fire Service
- Natural Resources Wales
- North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- South Wales Police
- South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- Future Generations Commissioner (2 submissions)
- Care Inspectorate Wales
- Estyn
- Health Inspectorate Wales
- Wales Audit Office
- Welsh NHS Confederation
- Care and Share Cymru
- Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services
- WCVA
- WISERD

Interviewees:

- Carol Shillabeer – Chair, Powys RPB and Chief Executive, Powys Teaching Health Board
- Eleri Thomas – Deputy PCC, Gwent
- Adrian Crompton – Auditor General
- Rachel Rowlands – Chair, Cwm Taf Morgannwg RPB and Chief Executive Age Connect M
- Kath Peters – Policy Officer, Caerphilly CBC
- Ann Lloyd – Chair, Aneurin Bevan UHB
- Sally Holland - Children’s Commissioner
- Peter Davies – Chair, WCVA
- Alun Michael – PCC, South Wales
- Sue Cooper – DSS, Bridgend CBC and President of ADSS Cymru
- Helena Herklots – Older People’s Commissioner
- Michelle Morris – Chief Executive, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
- Dilwyn Owen Williams – Chief Executive, Gwynedd Council
- Ian Bancroft – Chief Executive, Wrexham County Borough Council
- Teresa Owen, Chair, North Wales RPB and Director of Public Health, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB
- Nicola Stubbins, Chair, Leadership Group, North Wales RPB and Corporate Director: Communities, Denbighshire County Council

Additional discussions and meetings:

- Heads of Inspectorate
- Local Authority Heads of Policy
- Social Services Policy Group (local authority Cabinet Members for Social Services and ADSS)
- Welsh NHS Confederation Members
- Children’s Commissioner for Wales
- Community Housing Cymru
- Partnership Council and Local Government Sub Group

ANNEX C - REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS – LEGISLATIVE STATUS OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership	Statutory?	Provision	Purpose	Partners	Footprint
Public Services Board	Yes	WFG Act (2015), Part 4	Each public services board must improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area by contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals.	<u>Statutory</u> Local authority, relevant Local Health Board, relevant Fire & rescue authority, Natural Resources Wales.	LA (generally)
Regional Partnership Board	Yes	SSWB Act (2014), Part 9	Local authorities must work together with Local Health Boards better and work with other partners who deliver care and support.	Local Health Board, Local Authorities (Social Care, Education, Housing), third sector, carers, citizens	Health Board
Community Safety Partnership	Yes	Sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998	A legal responsibility for chief executives of local authorities and health boards, chief constables and chief fire officers and chief officers of probation services to work in partnership to prevent and reduce crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, behaviour adversely affecting	Local Authorities, Police, Youth Justice, Area Planning Board, Fire & Rescue, Probation Service and the Health Board	Local Authority

			the environment, substance misuse and re-offending.		
Adult's safeguarding partnership	Yes	SSWB Act (2014), Section 134	Section 135(2) of the SSWA 2014 specifies the objectives of a Safeguarding Adults Board, which are to protect adults in its area who have needs for care and support and who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse or neglect, and also to prevent adults with needs for care and support from becoming at risk of abuse or neglect.	Local Authorities, Social Services, Health Board, PHW, Police, National Probation Service, Office of the Police Crime Commissioner, Housing, Third Sector Organisations	Health Board
Children's safeguarding partnership	Yes	SSWB Act (2014), Section 134,	Section 135(1) of the SSWA 2014 specifies the objectives of a Safeguarding Children Board, which are to protect children in its area who are experiencing or are at risk of abuse, neglect or other harm and to prevent children in its area from becoming at risk of abuse, neglect or other harm.	Local Authorities, Social Services, Health Board, PHW, Police, National Probation Service, Office of the Police Crime Commissioner, Housing, Third Sector Organisations	Health Board
Regional Skills Partnership	No	The Policy Statement on Skills (published January 2014) set out the policy direction for regional skills delivery, under the heading "Skills That Respond to Local Need" and the announcement of 3 Regional Skills Partnerships	Regional Skills Partnerships are voluntary bodies in place to drive investment in skills by developing responses based upon local and regional need. They produce Regional Employment and Skills Plans	Businesses, Industry bodies, Higher and further education institutions, Training providers, Schools, Local authorities and the Welsh Government	North, South East, and South West & Mid Wales

			to analyse and influence the provision of skills based on regional economic need, to support growth and key infrastructure projects in each region. The Regional Employment and Skills Plans build on and support priorities identified by Enterprise Zones, City Deal, City Regions and cross border collaborations.		
City Deals / Ambitions Board	No	City Deals and the Regional Economies of Wales		Welsh Government, Local authorities, DWP, Businesses, Industry bodies, Higher and further education institutions, Training providers, Schools	
Regional Collaboration Committee (supporting people) From April 1 2020, Regional Housing Support	No	Driven through grant funding conditions Details in Supporting People Programme Guidance	The aim and overall focus of the RCCs is to provide strategic direction and scrutiny, at a regional level, for the Programme. Producing the Regional Strategic Plan, including a Spend Plan, to be shared with the Social Services and Well-being Regional Partnership Service Boards and the Welsh Government	Local authorities, Health, Probation, Supporting People Service Providers and Landlords	6 Committees covering the 22 LA areas – broadly in line with LHB footprint

Collaborative Groups					
Area Planning Board	No , though brought together previous arrangements which do have a statutory basis	<p>Driven through grant funding - Substance Misuse Action Fund (SMAF)</p> <p>Established in 2010 as part of the new arrangements to deliver the Welsh Government Substance Misuse Strategy 'Working Together to Reduce Harm'.</p>	APBs were intended to provide a regional framework, to, strengthen partnership working and strategic leadership in the delivery of the substance misuse strategy; and, enhance and improve the key functions of planning, commissioning and performance management.	Local authorities, Local Health Board, Substance Misuse Service Providers, Police, Youth Justice, Probation Service, CPS	LA
VAWDASV	Yes	<p>Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, s5, s15 (stat guidance)</p> <p>Statutory guidance notes they should seek to work regionally on RPB footprint.</p> <p>Community Safety Partnerships also have a statutory responsibility to reduce and prevent all forms of crime & disorder including VAWDASV</p>	Requires local authorities and Local Health Boards to prepare a strategy for the local authority area for tackling violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV).	Local authorities, Police, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Health Board, Wales Ambulance Service Trust, Probation Services, Registered Social Landlords, Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee, Fire and Rescue Service, Safeguarding Boards, VAWDASV specialist sector partners and voluntary sector organisations	LA/LHB

ANNEX D – LETTER FROM DMHSS AND DMHLG

12 July 2019

Dear all

On the 20th March 2019, we held an event in Cardiff to take stock of how Public Services Boards (PSB) and Regional Partnership Boards (RPB) are working together in practice. We would like to thank everyone that attended the event for sharing experiences, and participating in the rich discussions which took place throughout the day.

The two pieces of legislation which underpin the Boards are complementary. The Social Services and Well-Being Act focuses on the health and social care needs of individuals in a region to promote their individual well-being. The Well-being of Future Generations Act addresses the wider determinants of well-being including social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being.

Both Acts provide us with a common set of whole system, cross sector principles, namely; long-termism, prevention, collaboration, integration and involvement. However, while the Boards have shared areas of interest, they do have distinct roles, and different purposes and this is reflected in their work and membership.

The joint event emphasised the importance of Boards seeking to align their work – so they complement rather than duplicate each other. The event was independently facilitated, and we have now reflected on the key themes and observations from the day.

The key message from the day was clear - the way that Boards arrange their work so that it complements rather than duplicates is best considered and determined locally, where the needs and requirements of the local population are best understood.

The extent to which RPBs and PSBs have interacted has varied across Wales. The consensus on the day was that there is not a single model that fits all. There was also discussion that getting this right had proved more challenging for some regions than others. However, partners did convey a clear intention to build stronger and clearer links between the Boards in the future.

Partners were positive that this was achievable as in many areas there is already good progress in developing compatible assessments, plans and ways of working. There was also a clear view that any further legislation or guidance in this area be kept to a minimum, and that the focus should now be on delivery.

Both boards are already in a good position to build on improved communication and alignment given their cross over in relation to their membership. Both include representation from health, local government and third sector and a number of these

representatives are members of both boards. We can learn from such approaches to develop a seamless link between the boards' priorities and activities.

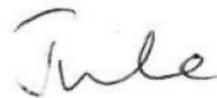
Welsh Government is committed to providing the most effective support to both boards enabling them to improve their alignment through straightforward means. To support this process the Welsh Government confirms its commitment to:

- supporting the work already underway to improve communication and alignment internally and with the Boards;
- scheduling regular meetings between the chairs of the PSBs and RPBs, and expand these discussions to the wider bodies which support the delivery of the Boards across Wales in order to share further learning and raise the awareness of different successful approaches; and
- establishing a joint development programme for members of both Boards focusing on the demands of operating as part of multi- agency partnerships.

In recognition of this we expect and encourage both RPBs and PSBs to work together and provide a coherent local and regional response to the wellbeing needs of individuals, which will include preventing poor health and wellbeing in our communities.



Hannah Blythyn AC/AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Tai a Llywodraeth
Leol
Deputy Minister for Housing and Local
Government



Julie Morgan AC/AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gofal
Cymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Health and Social
Services

ANNEX E – RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD AND REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARDS



Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014: Regional Partnership Boards

Part 9 of the Act aims to improve outcomes and well-being of people, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of health and care service delivery through principles of well-being, co-operation, prevention and citizen control.

Established seven Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) to bring together local authorities, local health boards, the third sector and service users and carers to co-operate together in planning and delivering services in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children.

Regional Partnership Boards operate on the footprints of each of the seven Health Boards in Wales.

RPBs must:

- Produce a regional population assessment
- Produce a regional area plan
- Provide a regional annual report
- Demonstrate citizen engagement and co-production.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: Public Service Boards

The Act aims to ensure that public bodies carry out “sustainable development” and improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, taking account of prevention, collaboration, integration, involvement and adopting a long term view.

Established Public Service Boards (PSBs) to bring together a range of public bodies to collectively improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area.

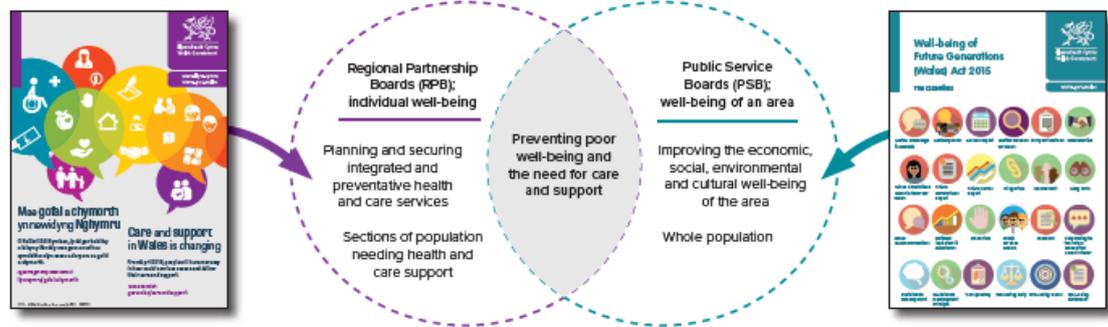
Most PSBs operate on local authority footprints although some have decided to merge together. There are currently 19 PSBs in Wales.

PSBs must:

- Produce an assessment of local well-being
- Produce a local well-being plan
- Provide an annual report
- Set out how they intend to involve people.

RPB Membership
Health, Social Care, Education, Housing, Third Sector, Carers, Citizens.

PSB Membership
Statutory members: Local Authority(ies), Local Health Board, Natural Resources Wales, Fire and Rescue.
Statutory invitees: Welsh Ministers, Police and Crime Commissioners, Police, Probation services, Third sector.



**Gwent Regional Partnership Board – Thursday 21st May 2020
Virtual Meeting**

Present: Phil Robson (Chair, ABUHB), Cllr Carl Cuss (Vice Chair, Caerphilly CBC), Sarah Aitken (ABUHB), Mel Laidler (ABUHB), Ann Lloyd (ABUHB), Nick Wood (ABUHB), Katija Dew (ABUHB), Dave Street (Caerphilly CBC), Chris Humphrey (Newport CC), Cllr Paul Cockeram (Newport CC), Eve Parkinson (Monmouthshire CC), Cllr Penny Jones (Monmouthshire CC), Keith Rutherford (Torfaen CBC), Cllr Anthony Hunt (Torfaen CBC/G10), Paula Kennedy (Melin Homes/Housing RSL rep), Damien McCann (Blaenau Gwent CBC), Keith Rutherford, (Torfaen CBC), Cllr David Daniels (Torfaen CBC), Melanie Minty (Regional Provider Forum Rep/Care Forum Wales), Lorraine Morgan (Citizen's Panel Rep), Chris Hodson (Citizen Panel), Edwards Watts (TVA), Steve Tiley (GAVO)

Apologies: Judith Paget (ABUHB), Richard Bevan (ABUHB), Julie Boothroyd (Monmouthshire CC), Cllr John Mason (Blaenau Gwent CBC), Anne Evans (TVA)

In attendance: David Williams (Regional Team), Claire Selmer (Minutes)

1.	<p>Introduction and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair welcomed all to the meeting, apologies noted above. Appreciation given to staff who have gone above and beyond to meet demands due to Covid-19. 	
2.	<p>Current position on Covid-19 arrangements</p> <p>a) Leadership Group summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA and Judith Paget have given evidence to Health, Social Care and Sport Committee this morning. Pandemic graph had a steep rise for hospital admission and critical care in Gwent. In first week of March, testing based on whether someone had travelled abroad. People thought to have respiratory disease and when able to test, Covid-19 was already here and escalating rapidly. SA felt lockdown came at right time in Gwent and acknowledged support of staff, LRF (communication) and Gwent Police (enforcing lockdown). Concern as limited supplies of renal filtration fluids, medicines and PPE, but managed to reach peak without running out. Now a decrease in admission and positive testing, and transmission level coming down. Concern noted that figures might increase when lockdown lifted. Infection rate differs in each locality. Higher in densely populated areas such as Newport. We are on top of hospital setting transmission, and care home figures are reducing. R number is currently 0.25 in hospitals and care homes, but likely to increase to 1 when people return to work. Cllr PC noted a programme on TV tonight, which looks at care homes in a negative way and is critical of Welsh Government (WG). Suggested we need to prepare a response. <p>b) Citizen view</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizen's Panel held their first virtual meeting, which was positive, and hope to continue these. Support being given to members via telephone where no Wi-Fi access. 	

- LM applauded work of key workers, health board, local authorities, third sector and volunteers.

The following points were raised by Citizen's Panel:

- Issue raised around premature hospital discharge; fairly ill people discharged without right level of support e.g. package of care. Incident reported where an inappropriate procedure carried out due to staff convenience, and where someone unable to walk/stand and was left on his doorstep by ambulance staff and subsequently readmitted; both issues reported to Older Persons Commissioner.
- Concern as care home residents not being admitted into hospital, and do not have access to appropriate palliative care if allowed to stay there e.g. equipment to support with breathing.
- Discussion around a care home that has lost 15 residents. Home upset and critical of WG and PHW testing, but praise for support from health board who are doing all they can to support.
- Concern about crowded public transport when people return to work.
- Information is being shared virtually, but many residents unable to access this so are not necessarily informed.
- Concern about those outside the shielding group who would benefit from support e.g. disabled people. Some received shielding letter late, and were worried as they had not been isolating.
- Access to free Wi-Fi, as previously able to access in libraries etc which have been closed.
- Chair thanks LM for feedback and asked those present take these issues forward.

c) Third sector view

- When locked down in March, many organisation were shut down and there was a huge volunteer demand.
- GAVO worked with strategic partners and organisation to look at roles volunteers could help with.
- Demand was diverted through Volunteer Wales and supported by WG.
- GAVO have added as much current information as they can onto their website.
- Concern about access for those who are vulnerable. Although ST noted groups still functioning who can support individuals
- Local authority approach differs, as some have used staff for on the ground to support and some have used volunteers.
- ST noted much of the third sector is struggling at this time. Development Managers have supported to make sure organisations have access to funding.
- WG were quick to make monies available via WCVA.
- Next steps include dealing with people's concerns following isolation e.g. supporting people to use the bus again.
- Volunteer impact needs to be considered and how this will change when people start to return to work. ST noted mapping work is needed.
- Chair queried if third sector feel they have had access to all systems regarding funding, and a voice at the table. ST agreed they have.
- EW raised concern regarding BAME groups in Newport, especially as those of black origin are thought to contract Covid-19 sooner. Queried whether anything being done in Newport and local hospitals.
- SA advised they were quick to evidence and risk assess a number of staff groups to determine whether they work in areas which were relatively Covid-19 free or work from

home. Need to think locally from here on and use local knowledge regarding keeping people aware and response.

- EW noted information not reaching these groups.
- ST noted Newport City Council have involved them in discussions and he has spoken to their Lead Officers.
- CH noted much information, and need to make sure this is circulated to the right groups.
- Cllr PC noted positive work of Community Connectors who are able to ensure information gets out.
- EW noted BAME in Newport are worried. However, he noted a decrease in hate crime as only a small amount of people acting inappropriately when they come against BAME.
- Cllr AH noted the way we work together in Gwent is encouraging and has helped with challenges such as PPE and care homes. He thanked KR for his support and thanked all for their approach. Need to look at pay levels and the fragmented nature of the sector, as well as at sustainable community approach.
- Cllr AH noted people in the community picking up prescriptions for others; this would not previously have been allowed but works well.

Action: Share information with EW and ST for circulation to BAME groups. SA

d) Provider perspective

- MM noted a great deal of disappointment in the way things have been handled. Especially around leaving care homes as an after thought.
- Members across Wales concerned regarding PPE and lack of access to testing.
- Staff are feeling unsafe as unable to be tested. WG asked to do more testing, in line with World Health Organisation guidelines.
- WG funding is thought to be piece-meal, and there has been a lack of communication e.g. decisions to test on a Friday but then not making Public Health Wales aware.
- NW agreed there have been challenges to guidance and the way it is rolled out.
- Health board and local authority have worked hard with care homes over the past 6 weeks to support a number of homes with outbreaks. 12,050 residents and staff tested in last 3-4 weeks, 335 staff tested last week alone.
- A group has been put together with representation from CHC, local authorities and health board, which is working to support care homes.
- NW noted care home sector need to provide information, as struggling to get from some.100 x care homes and only 94 contributing to twice weekly SIP report. MM agreed she is happy to follow up and assist.
- The group is also tracing staff and how they are being trained e.g. use of PPE.
- NW hopeful that all care homes in Gwent will be tested by the end of June 2020.

3. Funding update

a) Funding report and programme governance

ICF Revenue

- All were made aware of £800,000 under-spend for 2021 at February 2020 RPB. With current spend, this is now £794,000.
- We need to clarify the best utilisation as we move through the year. WG have asked us to focus on discharge planning and Covid-19 response.
- Under-spend to be reviewed at next GASP meeting. KR noted he is shocked by the under-spend, and raised concern as next year is currently showing an over-spend.

ICF Capital

- Available balance of £50,000, due to concerns regarding schemes' ability to deliver this year.

- Need to identify if any over commitment needs to be addressed in quarter 2.
- Evaluation programme to be restarted, as a number of staff redeployed elsewhere.

Transformation Fund

- A rollover of £3.9m was agreed in February 2020 and this is broken down into schemes in the paper.
- Second offer monies has now been withdrawn, and WG have allocated for Covid-19 response. £1.819m allocated to RPB in Gwent.
- Transformation Fund is now back to the original amount, as no second offer.
- Primary care able to deliver with the money allocated, no concerns.
- £150,000 requested for Iceberg model, to cover staffing shortfall.
- £76,000 requested for Home First to extend staffing from September 2020 to March 2021.
- Leadership Group (RLG) felt the £150,000 and £76,000 could be top sliced from the £1.819m, as already in agreement that we need to support vulnerable children, and Home First links to discharge and support of Covid-19 work.
- A further £150,000 requested to extend and add support to Transformation Programme workforce. 3 x staff on fixed-term contracts which are due to end 30th September 2020. However, monies not available and suggested at RLG that staff return to substantive posts after September 2020.
- We need to identify monies already spent from £1.819 allocation and look at how we best utilise for third sector and social care providers.
- Mental Health funding agreed, and WG have released 6 months to ABUHB, to support increased demand.
- Early Years funding has gone into programmes.
- Cllr CC noted lack of clarity regarding Transformation Fund projects. Raised concern work is ongoing, but no funding to continue the team. Need to be mindful staff have expertise. In addition, programme funding came about due to efforts of staff. Staff need to continue in post and have oversight, and we need to find money for this.
- Noted other RPBs have not made a decision about Transformation Programme staff yet. Cllr CC suggested we defer decision on staffing until there is more information.
- Many RPBs in Wales have Transformation Programme under one framework, and NW noted ICF staff and Regional Team could support.
- NW felt need to conduct a quick review of governance and how we structure RPB support. Suggested organisations who host the three staff need to stand up monies for after September 2020.
- Cllr PC noted need for better understanding, as thought this was a one off amount. Raised concern we are making big decisions, and he feels 'bounced'; noted he has raised this before, and would like to speak to officers and to see minutiae. Agreed the work of Iceberg and Home First is rewarding, but need a better understanding of where money is going, and how this comes together.
- Cllr PJ reiterated concern regarding loss of Transformation Programme posts, as staff have expertise, and also contacts in WG who are helping us. She realises posts will end, but does not think now is not the right time.
- Cllr CC requested we get some information about what other Transformation Leads are doing, as he has been told they have been kept on using other budget avenues.
- AL noted the following:
 - RPB do not have to go out of the way to justify the spend on children for £1.819m funding, and the Surge paper identifies this also.
 - Need to look at governance for Transformation Programme; noted she wants to see these before making a decision.
 - Concerned regarding ICF under-spend and queried whether bid amounts legitimate at the beginning e.g. support for older people with complex needs. Queried if ICF

achieving what is set out, and are we learning lessons, so we do not need to come back and look at under-spends.

- Cllr PC suggested we look at timelines regarding decisions on money, receipt of reports and process of engagement over the next few weeks. When we have more detail, we can engage on thoughts and what we would like to see.
- NW noted Transformation Programme monies can carry on with relatively small amount of risk, but noted need to agree governance.

Action: Meet virtually to complete governance review. PR, CC, AL, KR and NW

ICF Small Grant Fund

- ST noted monies went to each region in December 2019/January 2020, but a quick turn-around. If they had more time, more organisations would have bid.
- Queried if there would be opportunities for others to bid on the under-spend, and if he could bring these to the next meeting. NW agreed third sector can bid for the £200,000.
- ST queried the process. NW advised Strategic Partnerships are arranging virtual meetings to discuss.

b) £40 million funding to Social Service

- MM asked for clarity, as it was her understanding we are expected to draw monies down after they have been paid.
- CH noted local authorities have developed this as much as possible, but constraints regarding the process being a joined up approach.
- Funding is for Social Care providers and in-house to support through Covid-19.
- Tool collectively developed to look at costs and pressure; data has been collected and is being collated.
- Local authorities have started to distribute monies, and have then put a claim in. There is some risk as need to make sure we are ticking all boxes and can get monies back.
- CH there is one pot of money and we need to bid nationally.
- DS noted Domiciliary Care and care homes have been badly hit by Covid-19. Not all providers have had a problem, but they may in the future.
- WG would not agree for us to share funding across all care homes, as against Ministerial advice. However, any further funding will have a sustainability element.

c) RIIC options

- Chair noted £250,000 received from WG for a hub, and are insisting we do this.
- SA noted WG are asking for an updated bid by the end of May 2020, and we need to think about what we want it to do. Suggested funding goes towards Covid-19 response.
- Chair felt conversation with WG is needed, and dangerous to say it is just for Covid-19 response, as need to look onwards to life after Covid-19.
- Chair noted some hubs are up and running, and we are under pressure as seen to be dragging our feet.
- Cllr CC noted this is WG requirement, and the piece of work could be given to Transformation Programme team to do.

4. Partnership arrangements going forward

a) Reporting by partnerships) Frequency of meetings

- Chair advised meetings to continue on a bi-monthly basis.

b) Virtual meeting arrangements

- Cllr PC noted he has asked for RLG minutes on several occasions and not had these.
- KR advised only one meeting since then (14th May 2020), and minutes will be circulated once finalised.

	Action: RLG minutes to continue to be circulated to members. Regional Team	
5.	Forward planning for next meeting (July 2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair requested a report on service sustainable, and a review of mental health services to be discussed at the next meeting. Agreed 	
6.	Minutes of last meeting (February 2020) and matters arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes were agreed to be a fair reflection of the previous meeting. 	
7.	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional items discussed. 	
8	Next meeting: Thursday 16 th July 2020 – 2pm (Venue TBC)	

**Gwent Regional Partnership Board – Thursday 16th July 2020
Virtual Meeting**

Present: Cllr Carl Cuss (Chair, Caerphilly CBC), Phil Robson (Vice Chair, ABUHB), Judith Paget (ABUHB), Sarah Aitken (ABUHB), Mel Laidler (ABUHB), Ann Lloyd (ABUHB), Nick Wood (ABUHB), Katija Dew (ABUHB), Emily Warren (ABUHB), Dave Street (Caerphilly CBC), Chris Humphrey (Newport CC), Cllr Paul Cockeram (Newport CC), Julie Boothroyd (Monmouthshire CC), Cllr Penny Jones (Monmouthshire CC), Keith Rutherford (Torfaen CBC), Paula Kennedy (Melin Homes/Housing RSL rep), Damien McCann (Blaenau Gwent CBC), Cllr John Mason (Blaenau Gwent CBC), Keith Rutherford, (Torfaen CBC), Melanie Minty (Regional Provider Forum Rep/Care Forum Wales), Lorraine Morgan (Citizen’s Panel Rep), Anne Evans (TVA), Steve Tiley (GAVO)

Apologies: Richard Bevan (ABUHB), Chris Hodson (Citizen Panel), Cllr Anthony Hunt (Torfaen CBC/G10),

In attendance: Phil Diamond (Regional Team), Claire Selmer (Minutes)

1.	<p>Introduction and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair (PR) welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies are noted above. 	
2.	<p>Election of Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr CC elected as Chair. PR congratulated Chair and wished him well in this role. Chair (Cllr CC) thanked PR for his time as Chair; this is a complex area and he has built good relationships and kept pace with the Health and Social Care agenda. 	
3.	<p>Election of Vice Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PR temporarily elected as Vice Chair. 	
4.	<p>Current position on Covid-19 arrangements</p> <p>a) Regional Citizen’s Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lack of guidance for older people who are not shielding but may have one or more medical conditions. Anxiety when mixing with others. Anxiety and lack of confidence amongst older people due to wearing of facemasks etc. In relation to underspend with some ICF projects, there was some uncertainty amongst the panel whether those projects allocated funding were the correct ones, as other schemes for adults thought to be a wiser choice, but understand that the pandemic would have affected delivery for projects and could have contributed to underspend ML noted some challenge how ICF utilised the past 12 months. However, RLG have asked to look at winter planning when slippage is available. Concern raised regarding testing of domiciliary care workers, as people moving into different care homes without regular testing. NW advised testing available on a weekly basis via national portal and Rodney Parade testing centre. Significant numbers tested over past 6 weeks, but only a small number of positive cases. Previous concern about unsafe discharge/not meeting people’s care needs was sent to Older Persons Commissioner. Acknowledgment received and awaiting a response. Older Persons Commissioner collating experiences of older people during pandemic, and report expected at end of July 2020. NW noted the need to be mindful, as a number of studies and reviews looking at pre and post Covid-19 impact on care homes and residents e.g. Local Resilience Forum. Citizen’s Panel member Hilary Lester has written a letter about her experiences, and is happy to share this with RPB. LM 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about Wales Council for the Blind and the work of the RPB. They have asked to talk to Citizen’s Panel, and information can be fed back to RPB. ML noted would be of interest to Gwent Adults Strategic Partnership (GASP) also. • LM noted care home residents not necessarily engaged with Citizen’s Panel. Now tasked with including residents, especially as they have new skills using iPads etc and can join on a virtual basis. LM • Citizen’s Panel expressed thanks to NHS and Social Care staff for working hard and keeping people safe. Grateful for the good work and support in Gwent. <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Circulate Hilary Lester’s letter to all for information. LM 2) Wales Council for the Blind to be asked to present at GASP. LM/Regional Team 3) Care Home residents to be involved in Citizen’s Panel meetings. LM <p>b) Third Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues regarding mental health (all ages). • GAVO looking at using community centres to help address isolation issues. • Chair noted Caerphilly CBC wrote to community centres and can re-open next week. • ST noted need for more conversation with third sector colleagues regarding slippage, as they can help utilise more effectively and include third sector options. • Cllr PC noted need for ‘on the shelf’ projects to be prepared, which we can drop into place straight away when slippage becomes available. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Consider database of ICF projects which could be implemented within short timescales. ICF Team/Third Sector 	
5.	<p>Funding Update</p> <p>a) ICF & TF Financial Position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance report illustrates position for ICF month 2 and Transformation Fund month 3, as well as any funding proposals. • Under-spend increased to £928,000 (previously £896,000). Figures monitored monthly. • CC advised they have written to third sector colleagues where schemes temporarily paused, or staff furloughed, and under-spend expected to increase. • 6 schemes agreed by GASP to be put forward for slippage. Agreed by RLG, and RPB to confirm whether they are happy to progress. • Suggestion that future ICF funding available during 20/21, but not sanctioned by politicians yet and will be a transition fund during election year • AL queried whether alternative use of underspend will affect outcome of schemes, especially as no certainty regarding future funding. ML agreed to explore further. ML • CC spoke to Vaughan Gething at WLGA meeting, and Welsh Government (WG) are supportive of ICF, but difficult for them to make a commitment. • Home First has continued to play an important role. Plan to look at trend, savings, outcomes and impact if the service were to be taken down. • Integrated Wellbeing Networks are achieving what they were set out to do, and engaging with more people due to the pandemic e.g. phone calls being made to check primary care and community support needs being met. <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Consider impact on schemes where there is slippage, and outcome on delivery ML 2) Report and recommendations agreed. Agreed 	

b) ICF Programme Position

- Due to level of uncertainty for future funding, the task and finish group are looking at all ICF funded projects and developing an impact assessment including employment as over 300 staff employed through ICF projects across the region. ICF running since 2014 and a number of fixed-term posts where staff now have statutory rights. ML recommended we carry on with this work, and can then give RLG and RPB assurance we are identifying risk etc.

Action: Report and recommendations agreed. Agreed

c) RIIC options – Learning & Improvement Networks

- The report sets out work programme for the Hub until 31st March 2021.
- Due to uncertainty about funding after March, no new staff recruited for this work.
- Health Board and Social Services completing a data capture to inform future recovery planning
- IPC commissioned to do analysis work by early September 2020. The additional capacity will be used to develop training and support e.g. Train the Trainer, which will be available to all RPB partners.
- Other regions thought to be looking at our model for ideas.
- EW noted she hopes the focus on Covid-19 and informing future planning will be positive.

d) Governance

- AL noted she appreciates the intent behind sharing the letter (Paper 5g), but suggested we underpin a protocol to support the Chair when we have not been asked to agree. A suggestion is to include a protocol as part of the TOR for RPB.
- Cllr CC noted happy to share letters in advance in the future.
- EW advised the letter has not formally gone to the Minister as yet, and can be amended if necessary.

Action: The letter was endorsed and consider updating TOR to include protocol.

e) Engagement

- CH noted because the timescale has been compressed, it would be helpful to have an understanding of demands. We are still in a response phase, and need to start planning for a possible second wave during winter period. Would be useful to understand the pressures.
- EW advised 3 LINs being set up and nominations will be through the Strategic Partnerships. Meetings to be held monthly.
- IPC will do the interviews and review. EW noted she would appreciate support and guidance from RPB on this and for paper to be circulated to Citizen Panel

Action: Papers 5e and 5f endorsed and to be shared with Citizen Panel.

f) Iceberg Model

- Concern raised regarding emerging impact on children and young people's mental health due to lockdown etc. EW advised they are working to reframe the service and actively allow virtual services.
- Over 900 requests from April 2020 – June 2020, across 32 organisations.
- Partnership working is preventing referrals to the specialists CAMHS service.
- NW noted previous indication that Covid-19 funding would be used for Iceberg Model. WG did not feel this met the objectives, so a £60,000 shortfall to cover.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair noted Iceberg Model needs more time to flourish, and we need to continue to support this. • ML noted some schemes approved for slippage would meet criteria for Covid-19 funding, and can consider the schemes accessing this fund and potentially identify further funding for Iceberg Model. Agreed <p>Action: ML consider use of Covid-19 funding as alternative to ICF funding where appropriate and meeting criteria</p>	
6.	<p>Partnership arrangements – forward programme</p> <p>a) ICF & Transformation evaluations – to partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RPB Chair and Chair of Health Board have raised concern as evaluations are required to inform future planning. ML noted the report gives an indication of what the evaluation looks like. • A copy of the report will go to each Strategic Partnership, for all to make an informed decision on whether projects continue or end. • Where projects not delivering, recommendation will be to give notice and cease funding. • Chair thanked CC and ML for hosting an ICF briefing, which was appreciated by Executive Members. <p>b) Impact assessment on regional funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NW noted they will bring impact assessment back for Quarter 2/3 which includes a desktop assessment, and hopefully information will be ready for next RPB. • This should give an overview of the first tranche at risk. <p>c) Timelines and decision process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please refer to agenda item 5/7. 	
7.	<p>Recovery Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns raised previously regarding effective use of ICF and Transformation Fund. Funding due to end 31st March 2021, but recognised there needs to be some transition. • EW and ML met with David Williams to pull together a work plan, about how we best produce systematic review of funding schemes. Report previously went to RLG, and sets out templates, outcomes on use of money and recommendations for schemes. • Need to be conscious of the impact of decisions we make across the next 3-6 months and how this affects people and citizens. • Evaluation of all programmes by 30th September 2020, and will be the same process across all funding. WG have agreed to this process, and is a consistent approach. • Once complete, detailed impact analysis to be submitted to WG by 31st October 2020. • When RPB meet in November we should be in a better position to make recommendations regarding service value; those to go to core services/to be taken down. As well as some which need further conversation and decision. • Need to consider work by the Bevan Commission around strategic direction of services and place based care to inform the direction of a number of programmes e.g, ICF and Transformation Fund. • NW asked for RPB’s view on the approach. • Chair advised this could be sensitive, and would be good if all could be engaged. Welcomed detailed discussion on this. • PR noted large part of RPB agenda is spent on funding discussions and use of grants, making decisions on allocation of money. Need to change the landscape and look more at how we plan Health and Social Care services. Should be looking collectively at how we modify services 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr PC noted he does not disagree, but many schemes, especially in Children’s Services, are still in planning and hard to evaluate e.g. Windmill Farm and Rosedale. <p>Action: The paper was endorsed. Agreed</p> <p>a) link to PSBs and Emergency Planning – thoughts in progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD highlighted that the Strategic Coordinating Group are considering additional resilience and wellbeing indicators to inform the next phase of the COVID-19 planning across Gwent • As we move to a recovery stage, proposed that RPB and the PSBs continue to monitor agreed performance indicators and but some indicators proposed to SCG will be in addition to those currently monitored • SCG may include performance indicators from across health and social care and PD queried people’s views on this. We may be moving towards recovery, but there is still a strong feeling amongst Community Care Sub Group under the SCG that we are in a response phase and we need to manage the move from response to recovery especially given potential of a second wave during winter period • Chair suggested RPB have sight of paper before commenting. Need to ensure this is a Health and Social Care priority, and it is the position of RPB to respond. Suggested we keep this on the radar, as some discussion may be needed. Agreed • EW noted a letter due from the Minister regarding RPB responsibility and recovery planning. • NW raised concern regarding supporting methodology of a Healthier Wales, as there is Covid-19 focus in winter, and queried how we focus on this before the September meeting. A clear expectation for RPB to sign off the winter plan, but we are unsure of the plan as yet. • SA suggested we link this to emergency planning. We need a process, and this can be looked at under the Emergency Plan Recovery Group. <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Report to be shared with RPB when available. Regional Team 2) Add Recovery Planning to the next agenda. Regional Team <p>b) supporting mental health and wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MH&LD Strategic Partnership are engaging in a survey across 7 Health Boards, with Swansea University, to look at impact of Covid-19 on mental health and wellbeing. <p>Action: Survey information to be shared with RPB, when received. Regional Team</p>
8	<p>Children’s Commissioner for Wales - report and update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gwent approach is in line with what we are being asked to deliver in the ‘No Wrong Door’ report from Children’s Commissioner and ‘Iceberg’ model has been identified as an exemplar of good practice across Wales. • We have a whole system and regional approach to support in the Gwent area, and a good evidence base for what we are trying to achieve. • Report needs to give assurance to Children’s Commissioner we are doing what is required. • Children’s Commissioner has asked us to reflect on neighbouring counties where we can. • JB noted importance of using ICF and Transformation Fund to help fund children’s services.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr PC noted the report is from last year and needs to be updated regarding Covid-19 and the effect on Children's Services. Agreed <p>Actions:</p> <p>1) The report was endorsed. Agreed</p> <p>2) A caveat on the impact of Covid-19 to be added to the report. JB</p>	
9	<p>Regional Commissioning Group – Care Homes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of Covid-19 on Care Homes is at the front of the Gwent agenda. • Work has been completed around demand and capacity over the past 6 years. • The market in Gwent has not changed substantially, but a steady increase in vacancies since 2014. • We need a capacity analysis regarding demand going forward. • The number of care homes hit is significant due to deaths and effects on occupancy. Care homes coping due to WG funding, but this is due to end in September 2020. • WG funding only available in small amounts and is being channelled through local authorities, which causes difficulty regarding long-term sustainability. Need a different approach regarding people's ongoing care needs; need to think about this strategically and review from a Gwent-wide perspective what this will look like and how we provide it. • A number of small locally owned homes are nationally or internationally owned and difficult to get underneath regarding sustainability. • There is potential for new demand post-Covid e.g. rehabilitation. • NW noted confidence levels of the public are generally negative given recent press in relation to care homes • Chair noted all have seen in the news how care homes have worked hard in difficult circumstances e.g. PPE, testing etc. Regarding the negative view of the public, there is a need to give confidence that care homes are working diligently during these times • Regionally it has been said we will commission services through this group. • Next step is for a task and finish group to develop a funding pot for the sector. • PR suggested we evaluate RPB's current demands and how we meet these in the future e.g. how we use a pooled budget and look at collective resource over the next 3-5 years. We need to embrace this as a forward-looking project and need a proper strategic approach. Now is the time, and WG may be willing to help. • LM is part of a Zoom group looking at and challenging the model for long-term care. Suggested we look at domiciliary care model and turn it on its head, as not fit for purpose. • LM happy to be involved in any discussion groups. Chair thanked LM and noted DS and NW will take this offer on board. • JP suggested Leadership Group consider the report and develop a focus group to include colleagues from Housing Associations <p>Actions:</p> <p>1) Develop a group to consider impact of the report. RLG</p> <p>2) An updated commissioning report to be brought to the September 2020 meeting. DS/NW</p> <p>3) The next steps were endorsed. Agreed</p>	
10	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising (May 2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes were agreed to be a fair reflection of the previous meeting. 	
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>a) Governance and Regional Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, PR, NW and KR met to discuss support structure and regional grouping. • £950,000 a year spent on management support for RPB, ICF, Transition Project and other programmes, and a slightly slimmed down version being considered. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NW has asked EW to create a survey for RPB members regarding support required across programmes. EW • A report will go to next RLG, before coming to RPB. <p>b) update from RPB sub group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update given this time. <p>c) RPB annual report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report is a statutory duty for RPB. • Same report template as 2019/20 to be used, as this has received positive feedback. • WG have extended deadline to 30 September 2020. <p>Action: All RPB members invited to contribute to report, please contact Regional Team. All</p> <p>d) Self-Assessment Tool video clips –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulated for information. <p>d) RPB support for third sector Dementia Advocacy Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD advised Hope Project, who have previously worked across the region in developing an advocacy service, are seeking support from RPBs across Wales to develop a specific Dementia Advocacy Service. Agreed for Gwent RPB to support <p>e) Bevan Commission Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JP queried when we will have sight of the report. • EW has a meeting with Bevan Commission soon. Report delayed due to Covid-19. 	
12	<p>Next Meeting Thursday 17th September 2020 – 2pm (Venue TBC)</p>	

Public Services Board (PSB)

08 September 2020

Western Gateway Partnership

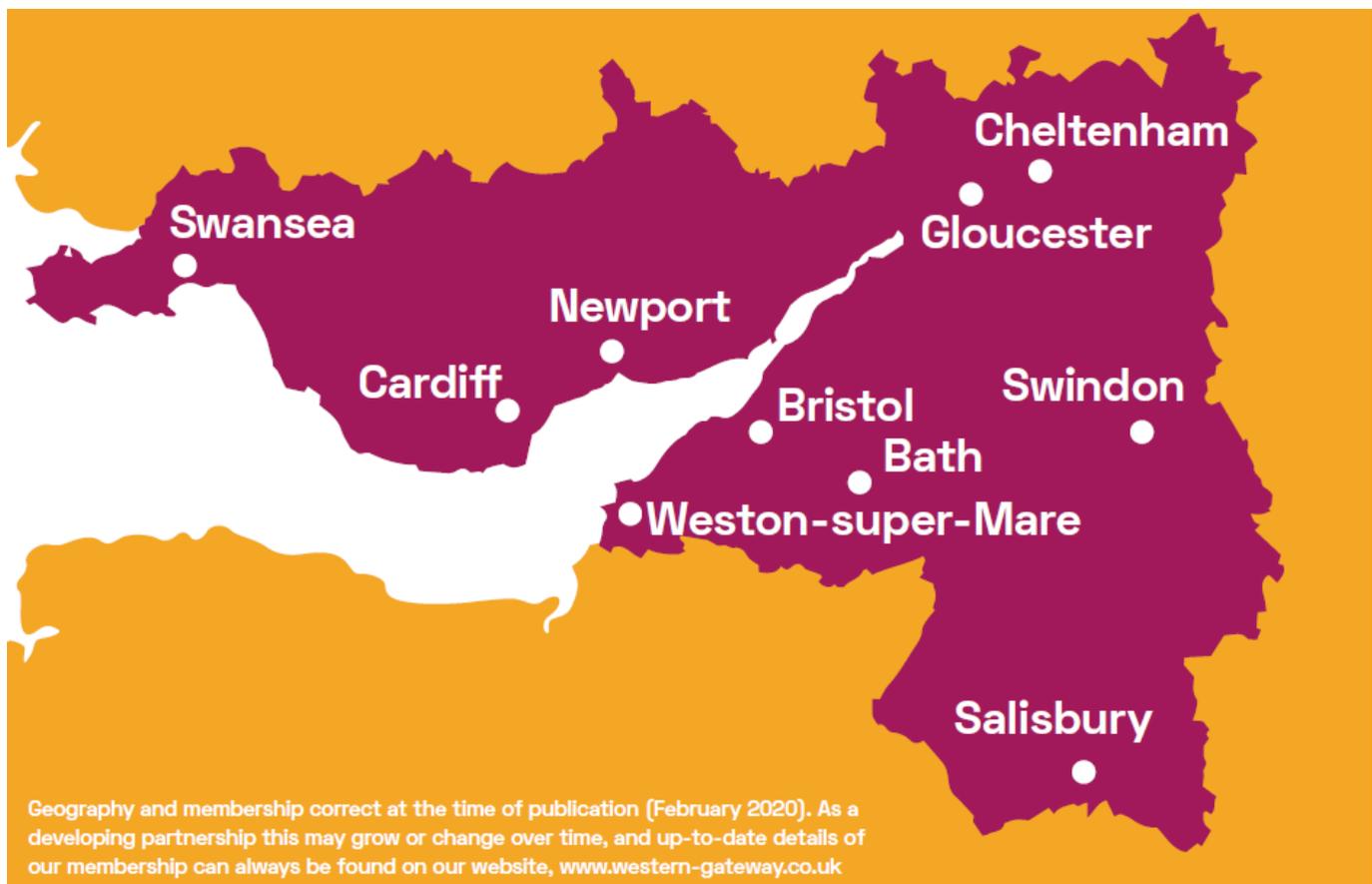
Purpose

To update the PSB on progress with the Western Gateway partnership and highlight the key potential benefits to Newport.

Background

Newport, Cardiff and Bristol formed the Great Western Cities partnership in 2015 and aspired to improve cooperation and develop a strong economic and environmental partnership. At that time the three cities had a combined economic output of £58 billion. In November 2019 the partnership was widened to include Swansea, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Bath, Swindon, Weston Super Mare and Salisbury and was rebranded as the Western Gateway. This partnership aims to boost local economies through cooperation and compete with other powerhouses in the UK to deliver greater regional growth.

Figure 1: Western Gateway Geographical Region



A £400,000 kick-start fund was provided by the UK Government and Katherine Bennett, Senior Vice President of Airbus has been appointed as Chair of the Western Gateway. The partnership seeks to complement the work of the City Regions across South Wales and Local Enterprise Partnerships in the West of England.

Strengths and Opportunities

The region is already a major economic powerhouse containing three city regions, each of which have identified improved physical and digital connectivity, higher skills and employment levels, plus innovation, as being pivotal to their future economic development and prosperity. As a whole, the region has a higher GVA per head than the Northern Powerhouse and the Midlands Engine and a pre lockdown economy in the region of £107 billion. There are 4.4 million people living in the Western Gateway area alongside approximately 160,000 businesses and 2.1 million jobs. Goods exports are in the region of £21 billion and the area is well connected by major roads, 2 airports and 9 ports.

The Western Gateway has identified three key sectors where collectively it has considerable strengths:

- Advanced manufacturing and engineering
- Creative and digital media
- Finance, business and professional services

In Newport in particular, businesses such as Admiral, Go-compare, Lloyds Banking Group, plus the Semiconductor Cluster and National Software and Cyber Security Academies are fundamental in these sectors. Not only are they hugely important to Newport, but they are also of regional and national significance and being part of a strategic partnership with greater collaboration will only help to serve these businesses and industries better, consequently benefiting the City as a whole.

The region is also a major centre for research and innovation with a host of assets:

- Ten universities and three members (Bath, Bristol and Cardiff) are part of the GW4 alliance – a network of the research intensive universities;
- Bristol and Bath – the National Composites Centre and the Quantum Technologies Innovation Centre at the new University of Bristol Temple Meads Quarter;
- Newport – the Compound Semiconductor Applications Cluster and Catapult. and the National Software and Cyber Academies;
- Cheltenham and Gloucester – the UK Cyber Business and UK Digital Retail Innovation Centre;
- Swansea – the Advanced Engineering Materials Research Institute plus the Steel and Metals Institute;
- Swindon – the UK Space Agency and UK Research and Innovation.

Being a part of the Western Gateway will mean that Newport can also benefit from being part of, and associated with, these exceptional research facilities.

As well as acknowledging the region's current strengths, growth in clean energy and low carbon, plus health and life sciences have been highlighted as opportunities. The region has particular strengths in renewable energy and tidal and marine energy. Newport in particular has seen expansion of solar farms in recent years and the possibility of a tidal lagoons has previously been discussed. There are growing opportunities for life sciences as well, linked to existing technology and digital strengths in Artificial Intelligence, high performance computing and quantum technologies. Newport's Semi-Conductor Cluster would be expected to benefit and lead in this field.

Ambitions

The overall visionary ambition of the Western Gateway is 'Propelling a greener, fairer, stronger Britain'. There are then three primary ambitions which the Western Gateway is striving to achieve which would be extremely valuable to Newport, but for Newport to achieve which focus on connectivity, being a global gateway and innovation. Achieving this in isolation for Newport would be highly improbable, but when combining with a greater force that is the Western Gateway, the ambitions become much more achievable and realistic.

Ambition 1: Connectivity

To deliver world class physical and digital connectivity into and within our area to boost productivity, unlock housing and lead our transition to a net zero future. Working with partners, the Western Gateway aims to deliver:

- Quicker, more frequent services to London and reducing the journey time from Swansea to London to under two hours;
- Quicker and more frequent services between the cities of the Western Gateway, with journey times between Cardiff and Bristol reduced to 30 minutes;
- A direct link into Heathrow and direct trains to other Core Cities and the proposed HS2 network;
- Reduced journey times, allowing residents to travel within the area in a 'golden hour' using one Western Gateway smart ticket;
- Improved connectivity through Swindon to England's Economic Heartland and improved north/south axis;
- Investment to the strategic road network, including the M4 and M5 to tackle congestion, boost capacity and unlock housing growth across the region;
- A network of electric charging points along the M4 and M5;
- The UK's most digitally connected region;
- A Gateway between the UK and the world economy, making the most of the region's ports and airports.

Ambition 2: Global Gateway

Become Britain's Global Gateway for export and investment-led growth.

- Deliver a Global Gateway Strategy, looking at trade, investment, ports and airports, visitor economy and business events;
- Put in place a programme of sectoral trade missions to key global markets.
- Become a true Gateway for the UK, forging strong links and collaborations with our neighbours and fellow powerhouses.

Ambition 3: Innovation

Bring our universities, businesses and natural assets together to meet the grand challenges and to create the new industries of the 21st Century.

- Capitalise on our unique natural and industrial assets, including the Severn Estuary, Hinkley Point and the potential for Tidal Lagoons in the Bristol Channel/Swansea Bay, to drive the development of new energy systems;
- Build on our industrial and research expertise to make the UKs aerospace and automotive industries a global leader in development new technologies for ultra-low emission vehicles, low carbon propulsion systems and lightweight structures for cars and planes;
- Become an internationally recognised powerhouse for innovation in the creative digital and cyber industries.

All of the above ambitions certainly have synergies with Newport’s own aspirations for development and growth. The partnership is not intended to replace or replicate Newport’s existing plans and strategies, or any Cardiff Capital Region aspirations, rather it will complement these through wider collaboration. Therefore, to be part of the Western Gateway and collaborating on resources, ideas and knowledge, is certainly going to boost Newport’s chances of future prosperity. The Gateway will also present an opportunity for a more direct link with UK Government, which could be beneficial when it comes to treasury and major investment decisions.

Governance

The Governance structure will consist of three elements.

- Partnership Board – responsible for setting the overarching vision and supporting strategies supported by a Business Advisory Group to enable a broader representation of key regional business leaders;
- Advisory Groups – responsible for developing the detailed strategy on key priorities to be progressed as determined by the Partnership Board;
- Delivery Support (secretariat) – providing support to the work of the Partnership Board, to expand as momentum gains.

Next Steps

An Independent Economic Review has been commissioned which will provide a comprehensive evidence-base to inform future policy development and investment, a task made ever more urgent by the economic turbulence caused by the current pandemic. A high level interim report is expected by early autumn which will outline the current challenges and immediate opportunities. This will be followed by a longer term piece of work looking at the macro-modelling and more detailed analysis to achieve the ambitions outlined above.

Overall the Western Gateway presents Newport with the opportunity to be part of a strategic partnership which will help our businesses and industries through better collaboration and shared innovation. Achieving such benefits on our own would be impossible but through partnership working, greater opportunities arise and Newport's economic growth ambitions become much more achievable and realistic.

Recommendation

To note the information.

Timetable Immediate

Well-being of Future Generations Act

The work of the Great Western Partnership is in line with the sustainable development principle in the following ways:

Long term - The Western Gateway is a long term partnership that aims to boost economic prosperity for the region for the foreseeable future.

Prevention - Through collaboration, the Western Gateway aims to become more prosperous. Collaboration amongst different cities will prevent economic decline.

Integration - The Western Gateway city regions and local enterprise partnerships have high self-contained labour markets indicating high levels of economic integration. With over 90% of the resident in-work population working in the Cardiff Capital Region and West of England, these city regions are self-contained and integrated.

Collaboration: The whole Western Gateway is a model for cross-border collaboration.

Involvement: The Western Gateway consists of three local enterprise partnerships, along with the authorities of the Cardiff Capital Region and Swansea Bay Region. Business representatives will also sit on the partnership board. The Western Gateway spans a large area with a large number of businesses and organisations, and there will be numerous opportunities for these to become involved with and benefit from the Gateway.

Contact: tracey.brooks@newport.gov.uk

One Newport Public Services Board Work Programme

8 December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020/21 Well-being Plan Q2 Performance updates • Scrutiny letter • Preparation of Local Development Plan • Living Wage City • Futures Risk Register • Jigso - Vulnerable Intelligence (SWFRS) • Young Person's Promise • Engagement Update • Strategy and Performance Board minutes • Regional Partnership Board minutes (information item)
March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020/21 Well-being Plan Q3 Performance updates • Newport Intelligence Hub

The PSB's terms of reference state that "Any member of the Board may request that an item is placed on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting. This should be notified to the Secretariat at least four weeks prior to the meeting concerned. Late items may be accepted at the discretion of the Chair. "